Changing Perspectives in History (Part 2)

AOK : History

Class discussion

Clueless?



Is historical narrative predominantly objective or more like a narrative that is agreed upon?

(Write down your reflection in the TOK journal)

Can the problems of the present be solved by better understanding the past?

(Watch this video and take notes)

Case study



Prohibition a brief summary

Historical Methodology

A strict process of collecting and selecting the traces from the past in the form of primary and secondary sources that will form the basis of the history they write. This method, called 'historical methodology', guarantees that certain methodological standards are met in order for historians to be able to justify their claims. Basically, this is the method used to produce knowledge in history.



- What are the methods used to produce knowledge in history?
- How do historians determine the reliability of their sources?
- Is there a need for collaborative research in history or can history be written in isolation?
- Do technological developments improve the production of knowledge in history?

Activity What makes a Source reliable?

Watch this video

In pairs, perform a critical analysis of one of the following sources

The Christopher Columbus Journal (1492)

The Rosetta Stone

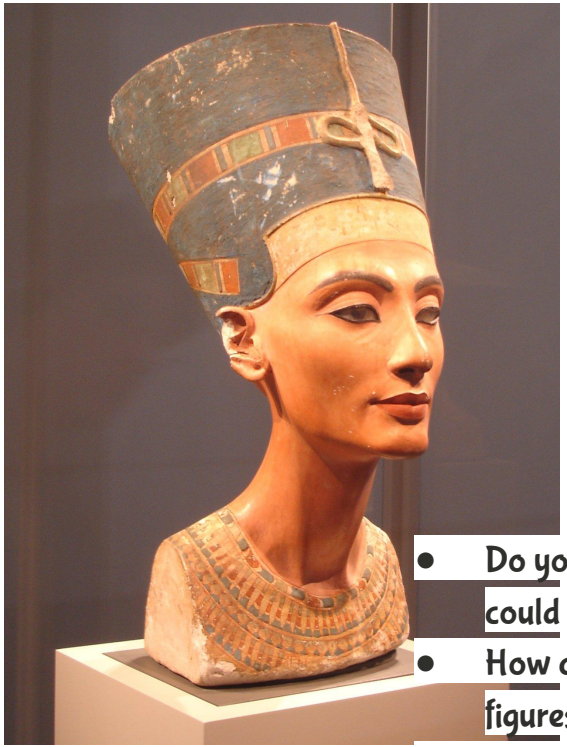
The Iliad and the Odyssey by Homer

Any other source you have in mind…..

Follow the OPVL method described here and enter your results in the TOK journal

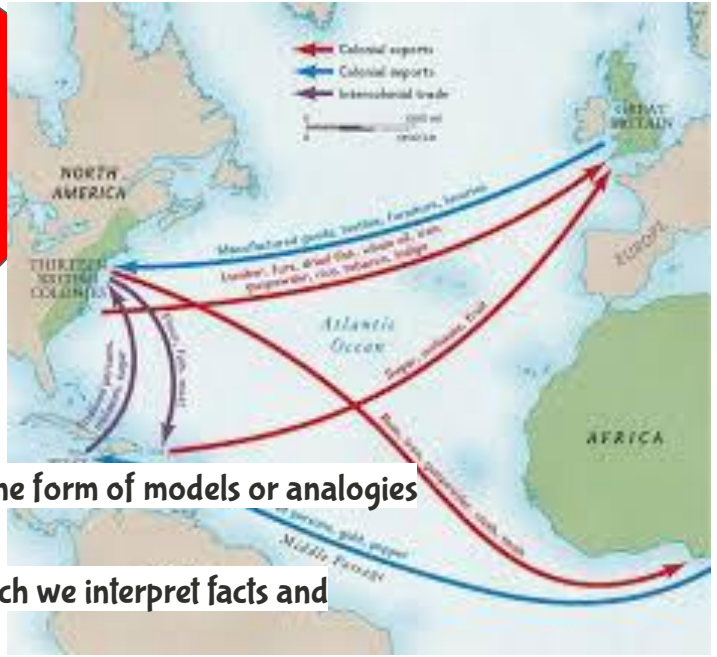


Do technological improvements better our knowledge of the past



Choose 1

Class discussion



- Do you think that visual representations in the form of models or analogies could help the production of knowledge?
- How can technology change the way in which we interpret facts and figures?
- How can we be certain of the accuracy of the data used in the design of models which are at hand for any user?

Key concepts



Historiography: the study of the writing of history and of written histories. Read an example of this science in the context of Cold War

Presentism: Merriam-Webster defines presentism as ‘an attitude toward the past dominated by present-day attitudes and experiences’. In our studying of how historical knowledge is produced, we can say that interpreting past events with perspectives of the present implies risks. For example, we may judge actions with a different moral compass than the one that was prevalent in the past.

Colonialism: the policy or practice of acquiring full or partial political control over another country, occupying it with settlers, and exploiting it economically.

Genocide: the deliberate killing of a large number of people from a particular nation or ethnic group with the aim of destroying that nation or group.



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