

What is History?

In this unit you will:



- Ø Learn what history is
- Ø Find out why we learn about history
- Ø Learn what archaeology is
- Ø Find out why archaeology is important for history

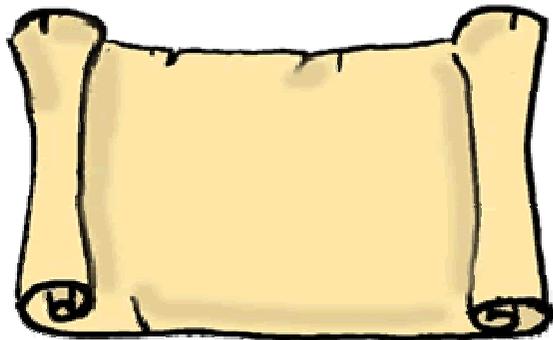
1. KEY WORDS

In this unit you will work with the following key words. Make sure that you understand all of them.

history, historian, archaeology, evidence, source, cause, consequence, physical remains, artefacts, investigation

2. WHAT IS HISTORY? PUT DOWN YOUR OWN DEFINITION TO THE BOX BELOW. YOU MIGHT FIND INSPIRATION IN THE FOLLOWING QUATATION.

If you do not like the past change it
(William L. Burton)



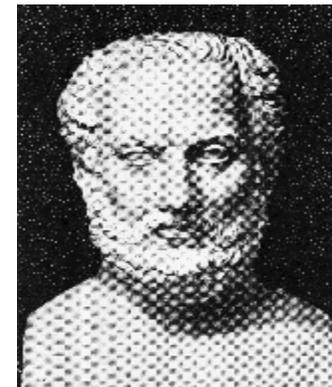
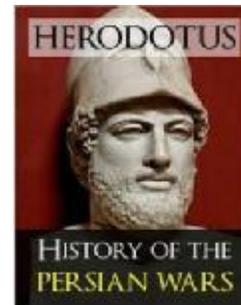
HISTORY, in its broadest sense, is the study of our past, the story of people. Some historians look at important events such as wars, revolutions, the changes of government, great inventions. Other historians are interested in the daily lives and routines of ordinary people. It is impossible that one historian would study the complex history of the world.

History is about people in the past

HISTORY is about men, women and children who lived in the past. History is about families. History is about larger groups of people. History is about nations and countries and how they get on together.

3. LOOK AT THE PHOTOS AND IDENTIFY THE PEOPLE IN THE PHOTOS.

The first people to study history seriously were the ancient Greek. In the 5th BC, the Greek historian **Herodotus** set out to write down a true and systematic record of the wars between the Greek and the Persians. He hoped to preserve the memory of past events and show how two people (nations) came into conflict. **Herodotus is considered to be the father of history.** The second important historian was Thucyides. He wrote a history of the war between Athens and Sparta.

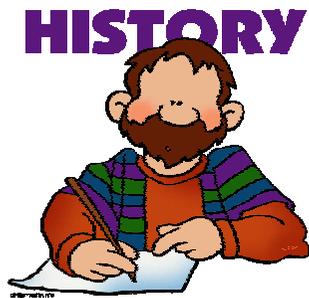


4. WRITE DOWN WHAT ARCHEOLOGY IS AND WHAT ARCHEOLOGY STUDIES

.....
.....

- WHO IS A HISTORIAN?
- WHAT IS THE AIM OF HISTORY
- WHO WAS THE FIRST TO STUDY HISTORY?
- WHAT IS ARCHEOLOGY?
- WHAT DOES THE ARCHEOLOGY STUDY?

ARCHEOLOGY can tell us about societies that had existed before written records were made and about the prehistoric times



HISTORIA MAGISTRA VITAE

DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAD HAPPENED BEFORE YOU WERE BORN MEANS THE SAME AS TO BE A CHILD FOREVER

A MAN WHO DOES NOT RESPECT HIS ANCESTORS IS WORSE THAN A WILD ANIMAL (AMERICAN INDIAN SAYING)

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF BECAUSE NOBODY LISTENS
(LAURENCE PETER, PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA)

8. TEST YOURSELF
WRITE DOWN YOUR OWN DEFINITION TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

- WHAT IS HISTORY?