HISTORICAL THINKING

Key concepts for historians

Cause and consequence	Why events happened, and what resulted from them. Causes can be short-term triggers or long-term factors.
Change and continuity	What altered over a period, and what stayed the same. Compare the pace and extent of change.
Significance	How important an event, person or development was, judged by its impact then and its lasting effects.
Interpretation	A view of the past, such as a historian's account. Different interpretations can exist because of different evidence or viewpoints.
Provenance	Who made a source, when, why and for whom. It helps you judge how far the source can be trusted.
Similarity and difference	Comparing people, places or periods to show how they were alike and how they varied.