

Level 1

Critical Thinking in History

Remembering

Acquiring knowledge provides the basis for the study of history by remembering facts such as names, dates, events, and places.

1. When was the pyramid of Cheops built?
2. When did World War I begin?
3. Where did Lee's surrender to Grant take place?
4. What were the borders of China during the Qin Dynasty?



Level 2

Critical Thinking in History

Understanding

Understanding facts involves explaining, interpreting, describing, or clarifying them.

1. Explain why the pyramids were built.
2. Describe two events that led to World War I.
3. Compare the economy of the North to that of the South before the Civil War.
4. Illustrate the importance of the Silk Road in world trade.



Level 3

Critical Thinking in History

Applying

Apply the acquired knowledge, facts, or interpretations to a new situation or in a different way.

1. What other civilizations used pyramids?
2. How would you apply what you know about the causes of WWI to a study of WWII?
3. What else could the South have done to gain support from foreign countries?
4. Create a chart to show ethnic populations in China.



Level 4

Critical Thinking in History

Analyzing

Take apart the subject matter; explain how the parts fit together; reveal causes, find gaps in understanding, and seek additional information.

1. Explain the relationship between religion and the social order in ancient Egypt.
2. What were the causes of World War I?
3. Why did the North win the Civil War?
4. Why did the teachings of Confucius have so much influence over Chinese society?



Level 5

Critical Thinking in History

Evaluating

Make and support judgments on the subject matter for a specific purpose

1. Does the reign of Ramses II justify his title of "Ramses the Great"?
2. Rank the causes of WWI from most to least significant and justify the order.
3. Assess the accuracy of the following statement: "The Civil War was the most important war in American history."
4. Assess the accuracy of the following statement: "The Silk Road was the fundamental link for contacts between ancient eastern and western civilizations."



Level 6

Critical Thinking in History

Creating

Put the pieces back together in a new way; collect information from several sources; draw conclusions; create new insights.

1. How did pharaohs rule, and why did Egyptians accept their rule?
2. Formulate a theory on the causes of war.
3. What factors might have allowed the South to win the Civil War?
4. Why was the Han dynasty successful in defending China from invaders?



Critical Thinking in History

Putting the Story Together

After answering the questions, the historian puts together the "raw materials" like pieces of a puzzle to tell a coherent story.

