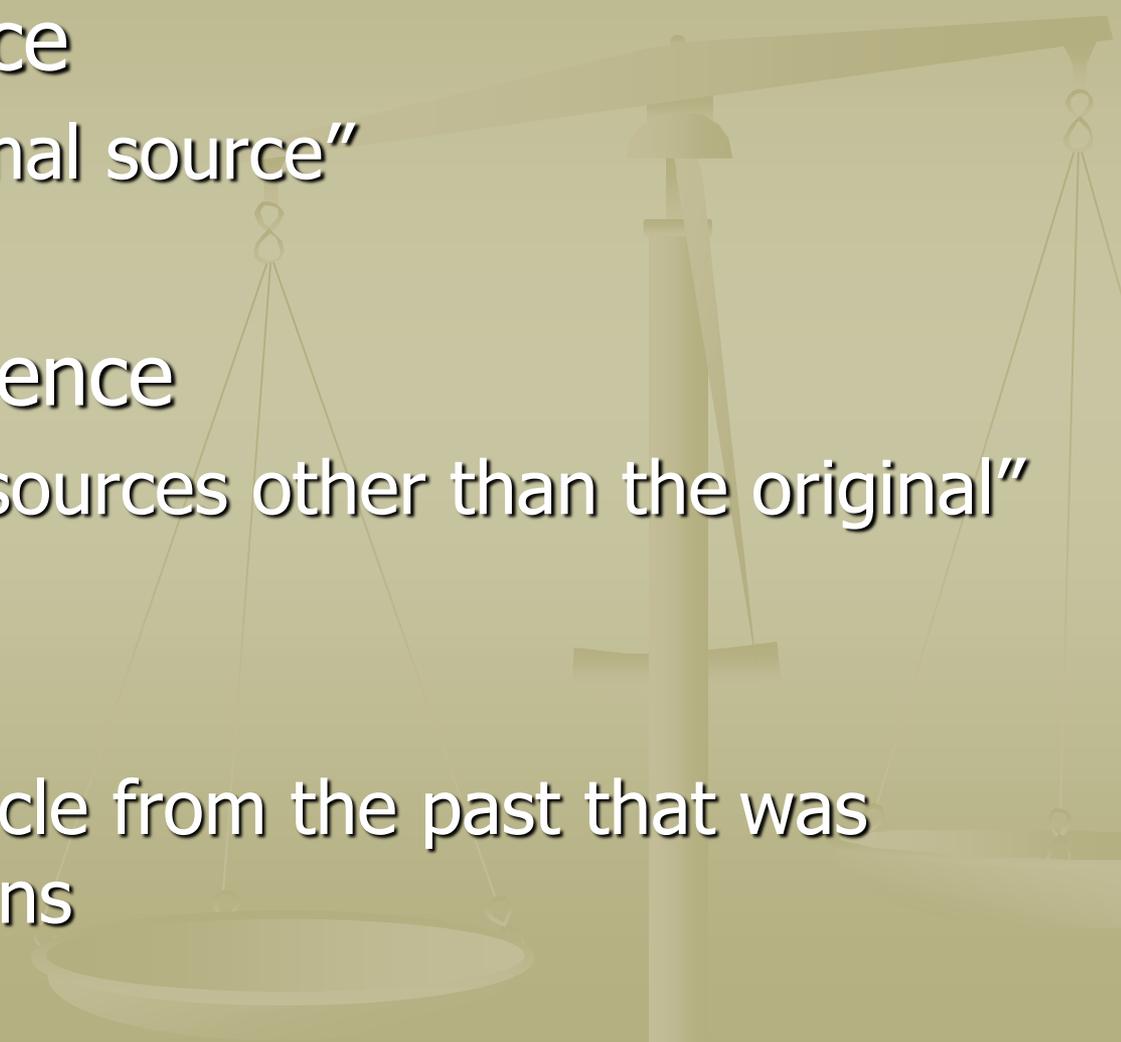


Understanding History

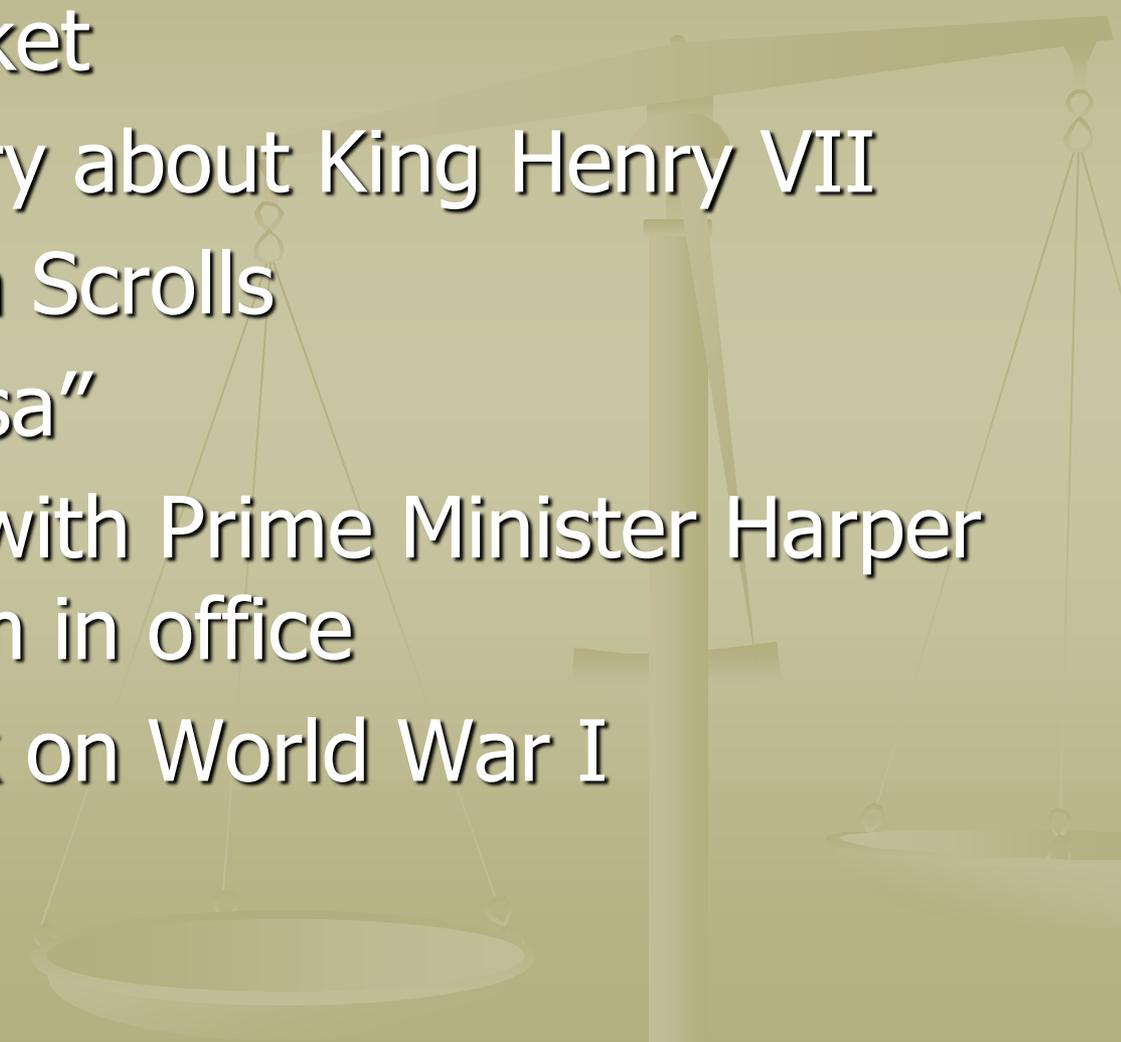


Key Concepts

How do we know what happened in the past?

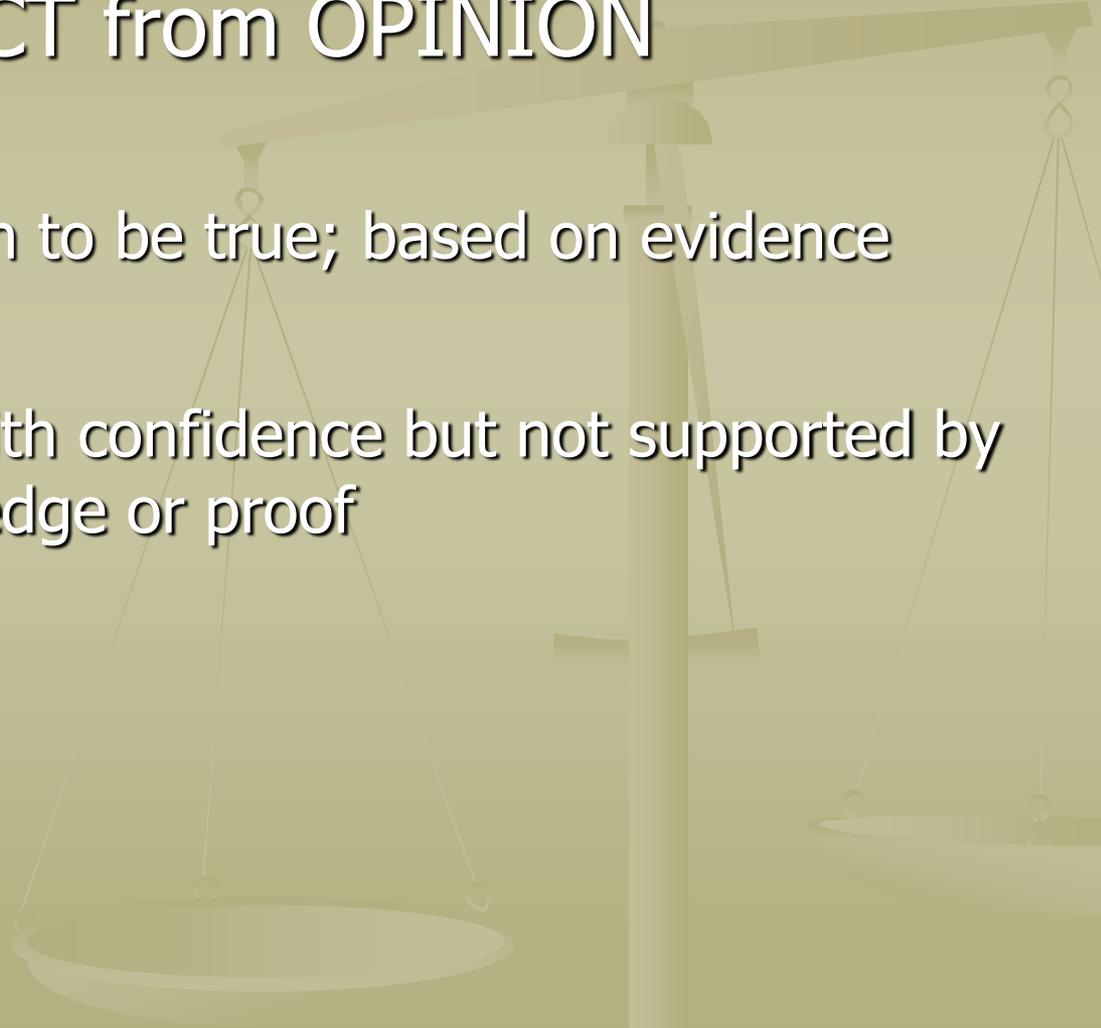
- Primary Evidence
 - “from the original source”
 - Secondary Evidence
 - “derived from sources other than the original”
 - Artifact
 - A surviving article from the past that was made by humans
- 

PRIMARY OR SECONDARY

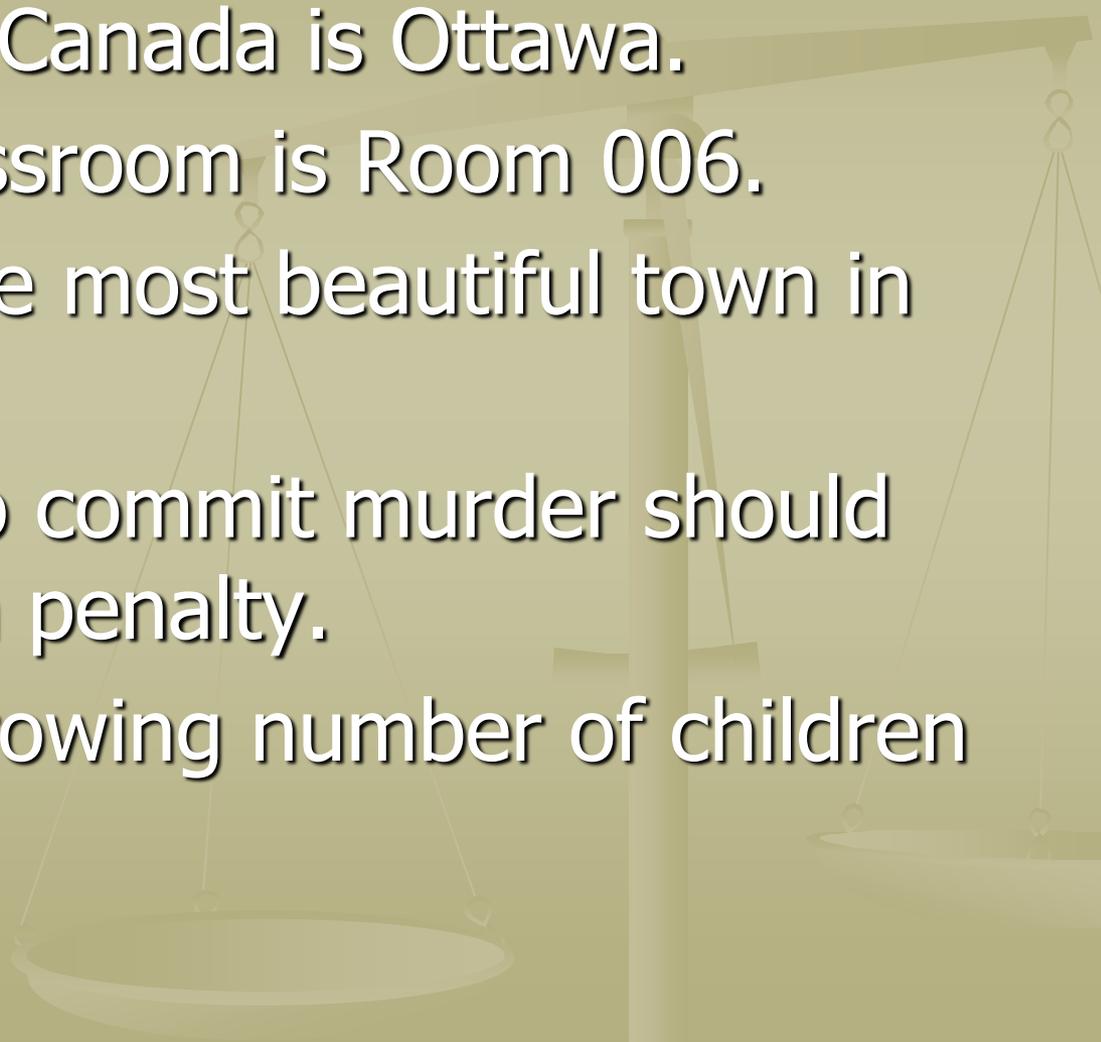


1. An 1863 musket
2. A documentary about King Henry VII
3. The Dead Sea Scrolls
4. The "Mona Lisa"
5. An interview with Prime Minister Harper about his term in office
6. A library book on World War I

Challenges in Learning about History (& Pre-History)

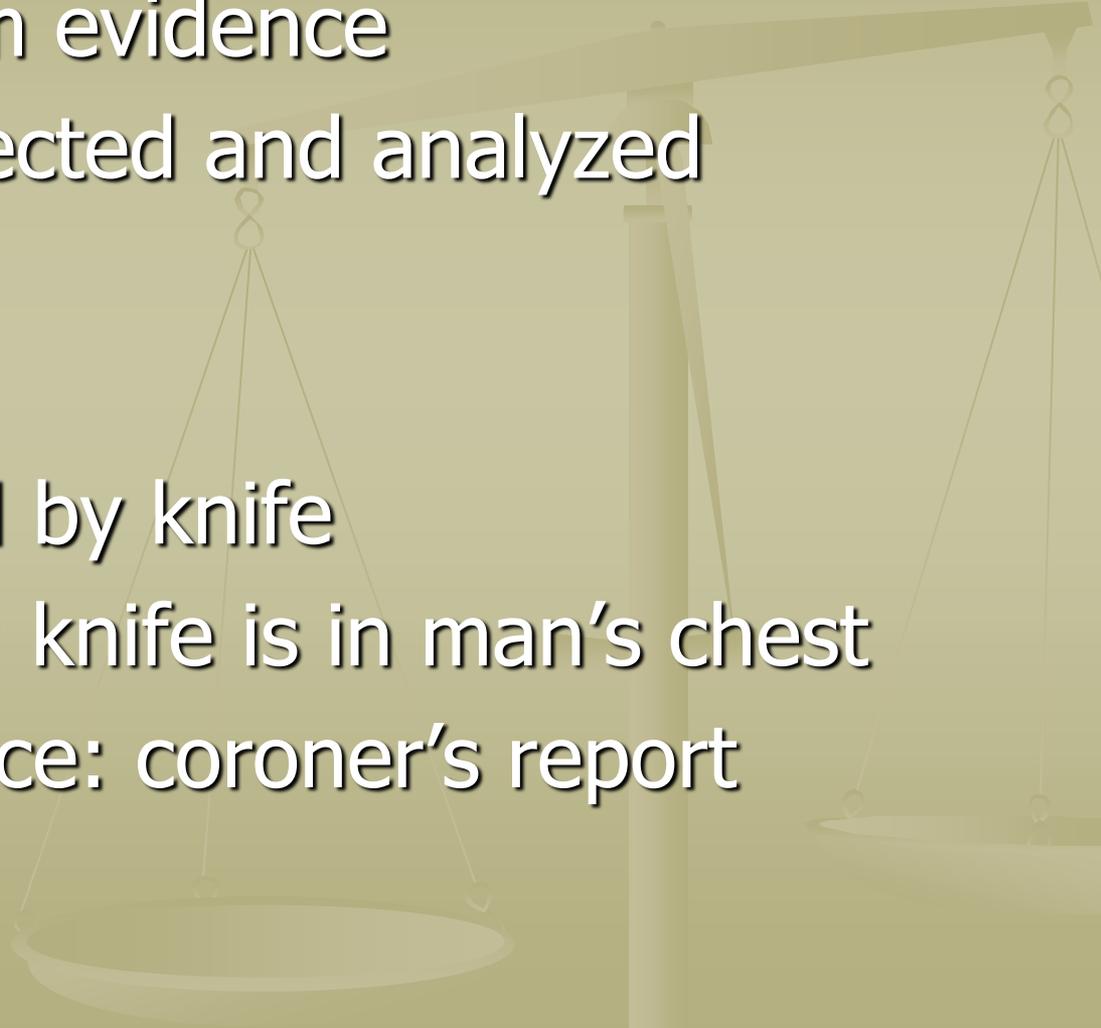
- Recognizing FACT from OPINION
 - FACT
 - anything known to be true; based on evidence
 - OPINION
 - A belief held with confidence but not supported by positive knowledge or proof
- 

FACT OR OPINION



1. The capital of Canada is Ottawa.
2. Ms. Cote's classroom is Room 006.
3. Rothesay is the most beautiful town in the Maritimes.
4. All people who commit murder should face the death penalty.
5. There are a growing number of children with obesity.

How Facts are Obtained



- Facts come from evidence
- Evidence is collected and analyzed

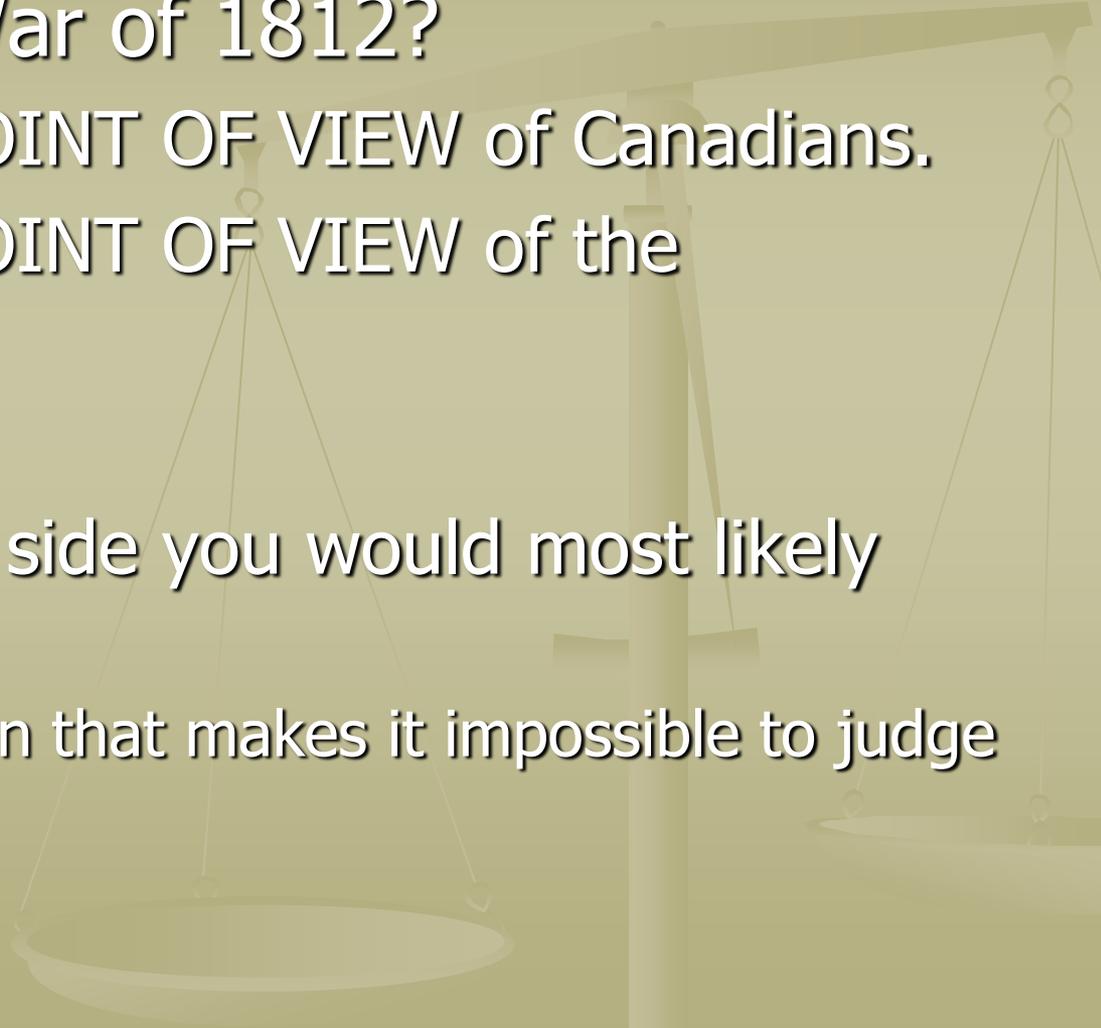
For example:

Fact: Man is killed by knife

Primary evidence: knife is in man's chest

Secondary evidence: coroner's report

The Subjectivity of History

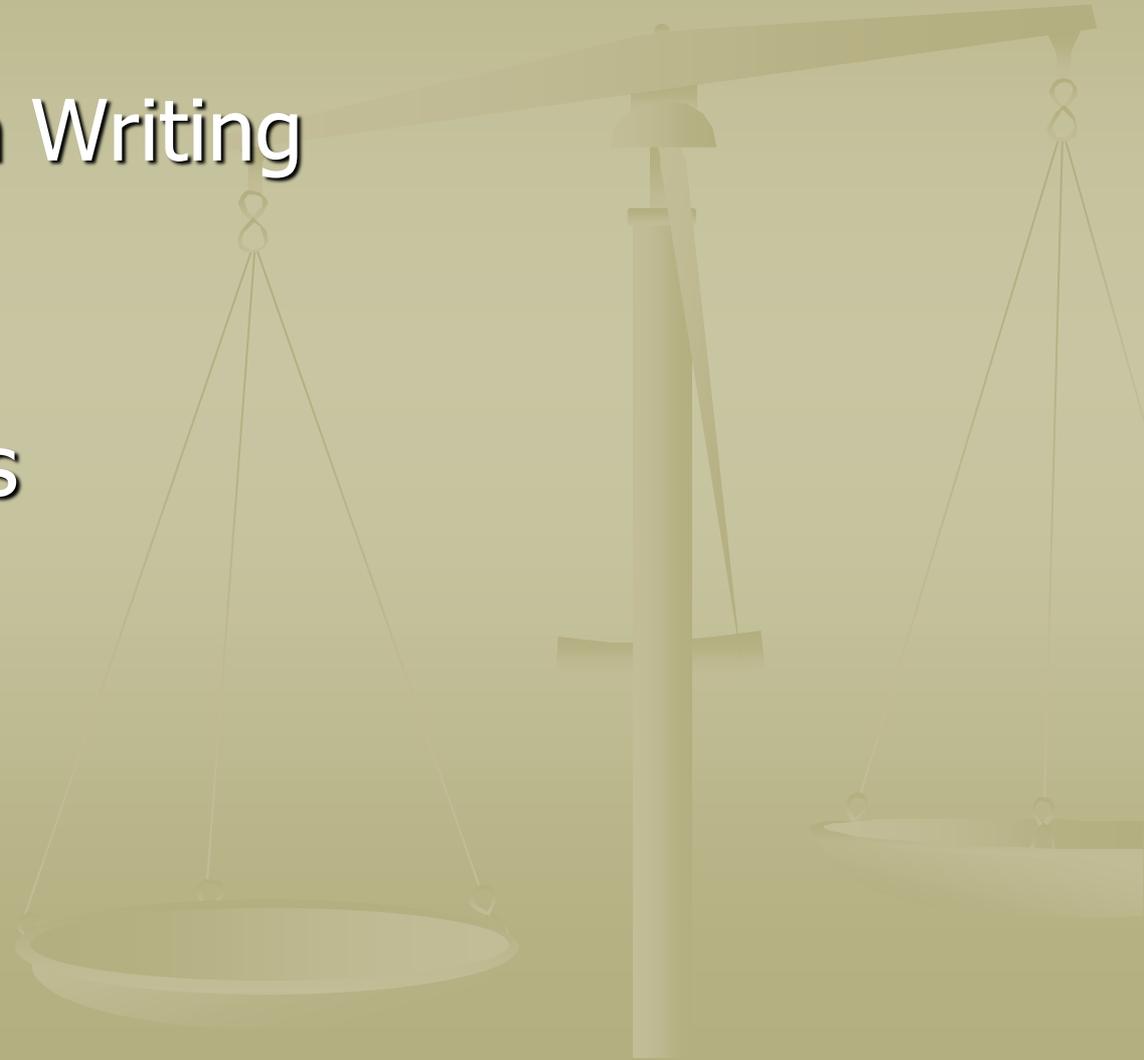


- Who won the War of 1812?
 - Consider the POINT OF VIEW of Canadians.
 - Consider the POINT OF VIEW of the Americans.
- Consider which side you would most likely support: BIAS
 - A set opinion that makes it impossible to judge fairly

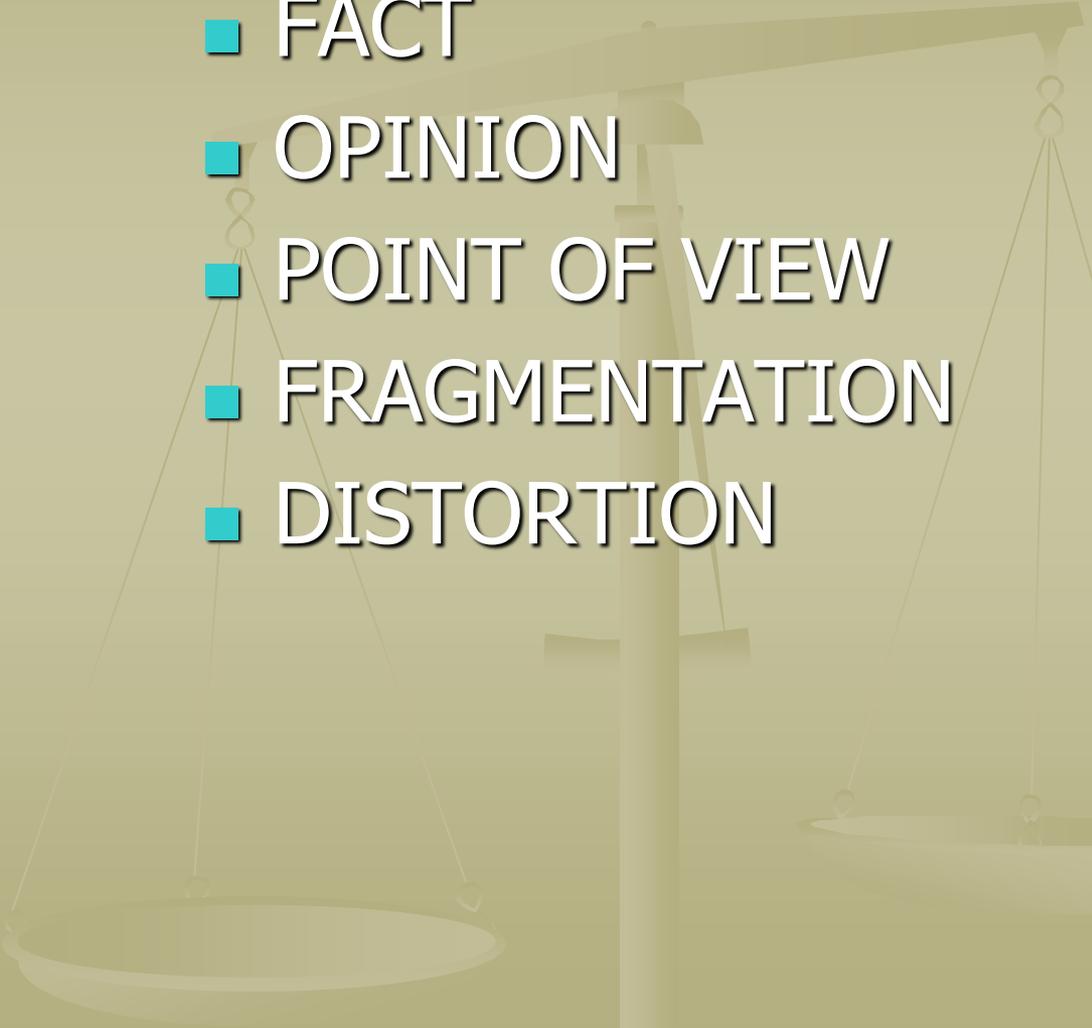
Fragmented and/or Distorted History

- Fragmentation – sometimes, primary sources are incomplete and thus we get an inaccurate or vague understanding of a historical event.
- Distortion – sometimes, primary sources are passed on inaccurately. Not surprisingly, this is especially true with oral tradition. For example, there are a number of different versions of the story of the building of an ark.

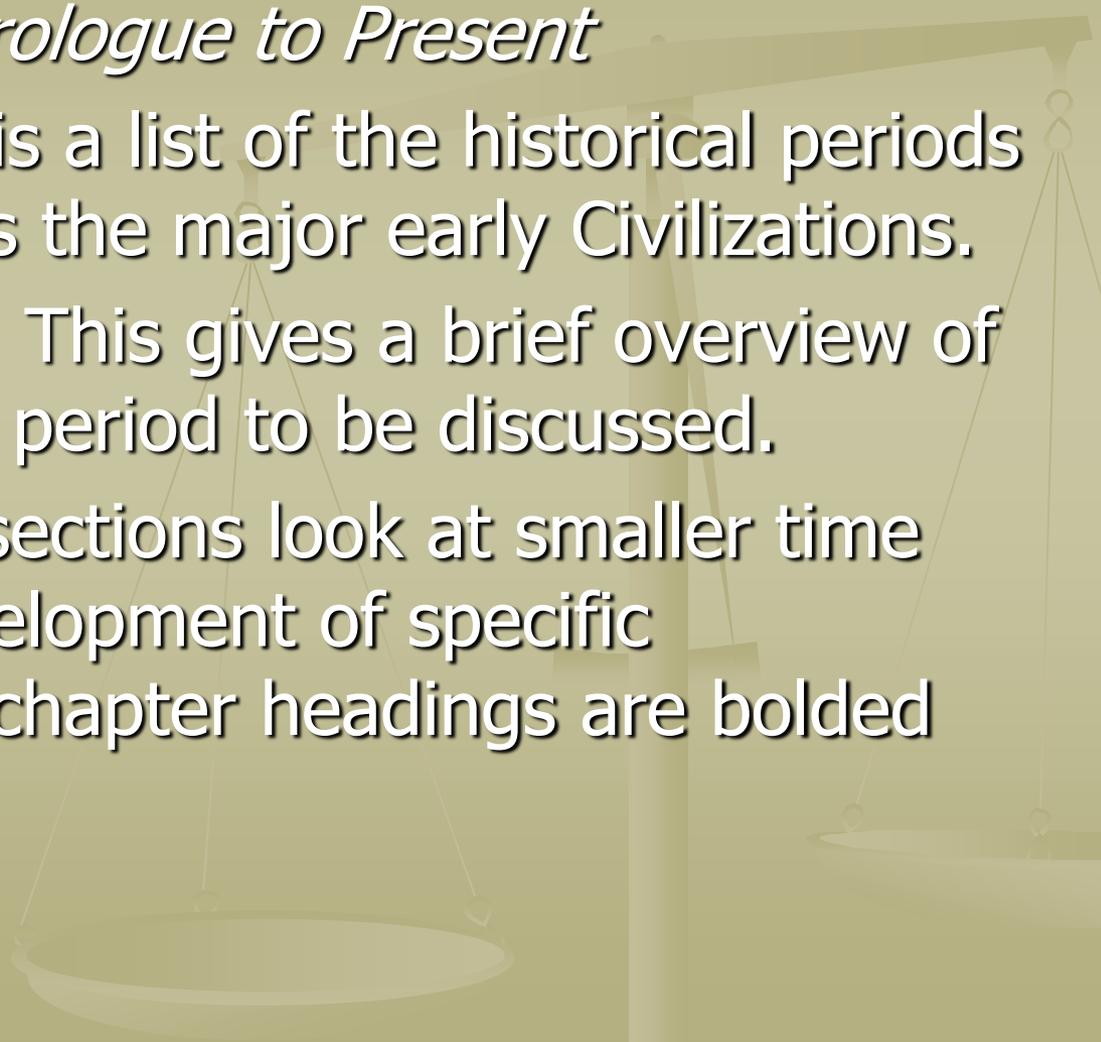
- Date of Entry
- Name of Person Writing
- Job
- Age
- Family Members
- Social Class
- Opinion
- Religion



REVIEW OF CONCEPTS

- PRIMARY EVIDENCE
 - SECONDARY EVIDENCE
 - ARTIFACT
 - FACT
 - OPINION
 - POINT OF VIEW
 - FRAGMENTATION
 - DISTORTION
- 

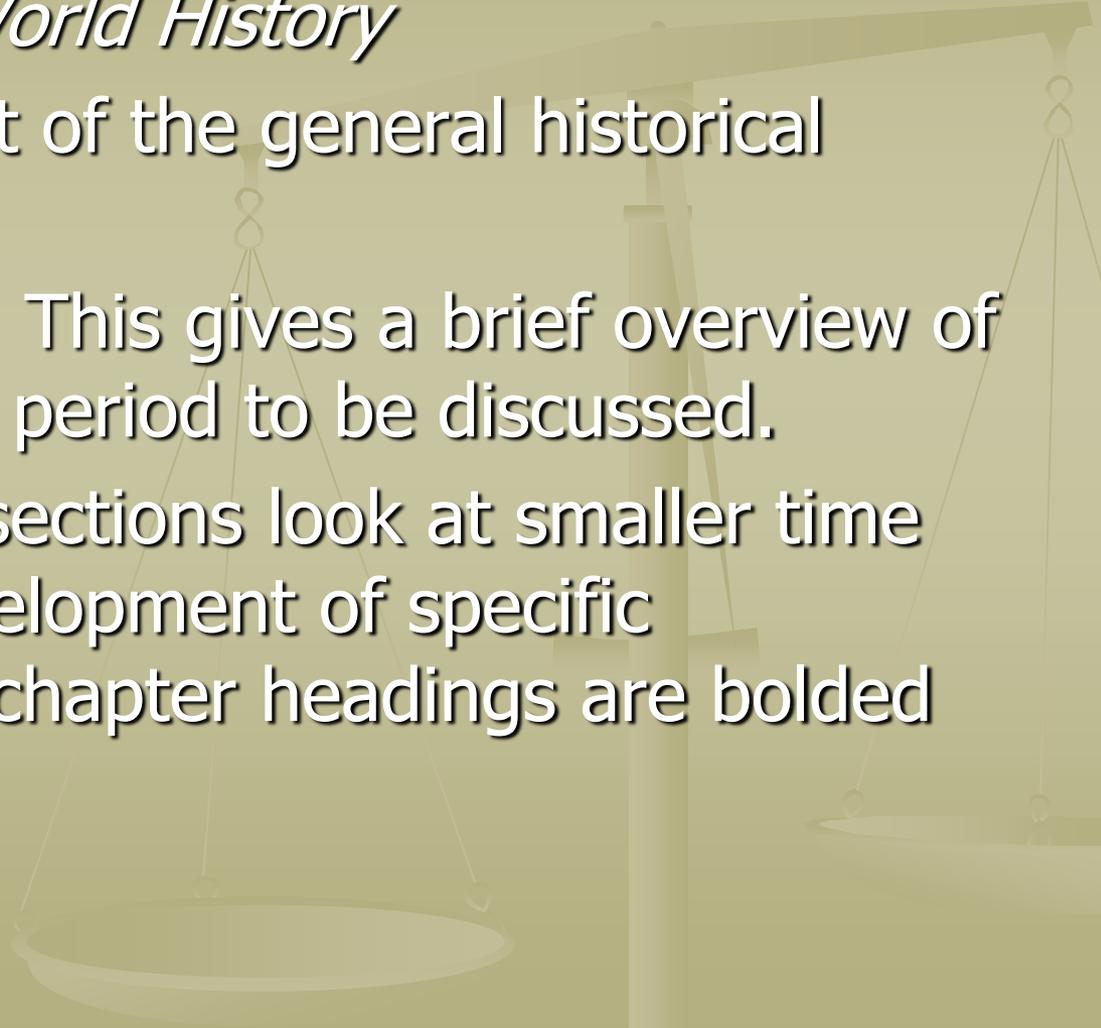
How to Read a History Textbook

1. Textbook Title: *Prologue to Present*
 2. Unit Topics: This is a list of the historical periods included as well as the major early Civilizations.
 3. Unit Introduction: This gives a brief overview of the historical time period to be discussed.
 4. Chapters: These sections look at smaller time frames or the development of specific civilizations. The chapter headings are bolded and in large font.
- 

How to Read a History Textbook

5. Subtopic Sections: There are a minimum of 5 subtopics in each chapter. The sections are in red font.
6. Sub subtopics: There are a number of smaller font sub subtopics providing specific details.
7. Timelines: There are various timelines throughout the text to provide a comparison between different civilizations.
8. Bolded, Italicized Words: These are important concept words that are defined in the "Glossary" section of the text.

How to Read a History Textbook

1. Textbook Title: *World History*
 2. Units: This is a list of the general historical periods included.
 3. Unit Introduction: This gives a brief overview of the historical time period to be discussed.
 4. Chapters: These sections look at smaller time frames or the development of specific civilizations. The chapter headings are bolded and in large font.
- 

How to Read a History Textbook

9. Visuals: There are several maps, charts, pictures, and timelines in every section. The maps help you find places and how they are related to a modern map. The charts give information about the time period. The pictures give you a better image of what it looked like during that time period.
10. Index: This is found at the end of the text and provides the quickest way to look up specific information or concepts.

How to Read a History Textbook

5. Sections: There are a minimum of 2 subtopics in each chapter. The sections are in red font.
6. Sub subtopics: There are a number of smaller font sub subtopics providing specific details.
7. Timelines: There are various timelines provided at the beginning of each chapter
8. Bolded, Highlighted Words: These are important concept words that are defined in the "Glossary" section of the text (green).

How to Read a History Textbook

9. Visuals: There are several maps, charts, pictures, and timelines in every section. The maps help you find places and how they are related to a modern map. The charts give information about the time period. The pictures give you a better image of what it looked like during that time period.
10. Index: This is found at the end of the text and provides the quickest way to look up specific information or concepts (red).