

THEMES IN WORLD HISTORY

THEME 1. INTERACTION WITH ENVIRONMENT: How do humans interact with the earth's environment and resources? How does physical geography or environmental pollution constrict and/or enhance human development? What is the potential for the world's environment to sustain a standard of living for each person equal to that of the United States?

THEME 2. REVOLUTION AND REACTION: What long-term ideas or institutions are being overthrown or reinstated? What caused people to make this radical change? What are the positive and/or negative results of the change?

THEME 3. POWER & AUTHORITY: Who holds the power? How did that person or group get power? What system of government is most effective? How does the group or person in power keep or lose power? Could everyone's interests be served in or by one international government? Why or why not?

THEME 4. DIVERSITY: How does using multiple perspectives about an event enrich your understanding of humanity? What does it mean to walk a mile in another person's shoes?

THEME 5. RELIGION AND ETHICAL SYSTEMS: How do religious beliefs impact or influence human behavior and interactions? How do various religious groups interact with one another? How do religious groups react toward nonmembers?

THEME 6. ECONOMICS: How should scarce resources be distributed in the world? How can economics be a catalyst for and response to change? Does everyone deserve the same standard of living?

THEME 7. CULTURAL INTERACTION & EXPRESSION: How can cultural interaction or isolation affect a society? Does an expression of art (literature, music, paintings, etc) mirror the era in which it was produced or does it provide the catalyst for change?

THEME 8. CONFLICT AND COOPERATION: What motivates groups to conquer other lands and people? How does a dominating society control and rule its subjects. How should nations or cultures resolve conflicts? Is conflict inevitable? Is peace maintainable? Which is the more natural human state, conflict or peace?

THEME 9. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Do all humans have natural rights? If so, who or what is responsible for defending or securing those rights? Does an international organization or a foreign country have the right or the responsibility to interfere in the internal affairs of other foreign countries to guarantee such rights?

THEME 10. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY: What tools and methods do people use to solve the various problems they face? How do people use the knowledge they gain about their world? How do new discoveries and inventions change the way people live?