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| **SS 301 US History – Review of Historical Thinking Skills Notes** |
| How do we know what we know about what happened in history? |
| **Textbooks?*** How do textbook writers know?

**Google?*** How does Google know?

**Historians?*** How do Historians know?
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| History is a process of Inquiry |
| * Historians make their best estimation about what happened by asking questions and putting together clues **from** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **and historical artifacts**. They must also account for factors that might influence the message or level of trustworthiness.

**Think of history as detective work*** Historical Inquiry = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ = clues or information from the source
* Primary sources = eyewitnesses or artifacts (sometimes trustworthy, sometimes not)
* Ambiguity
* Critical thinking
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| “Does the evidence corroborate?” |
| **Corroboration** = finding the same \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ across sources, makes it more reliable**Corroboration Questions*** Am I finding the same sources everywhere?
* What do the other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ say?
* Am I finding different versions of the same story? What is same/different? Why might this be?
* What pieces of evidence are most \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* Where else could I look to find out about this?
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| Know your Source! |
| **When was it written/recorded?*** Date and place? Same as the event in question?
* Relevant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

**Primary or Secondary?*** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or second hand

**Who is speaking?*** What do you know about the speaker?
* Factors that affect \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Audience and Purpose*** Why was it written? For whom?
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| Factors that influence Trustworthiness |
| **Perspective** – location, point of view (physical or mental)**Proximity** – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of time and location, how close the source is to the information you are seeking**Authority** – expert or in a position to know**Personal Interest** – a reason to consciously or unconsciously change the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in order to gain or benefit**Bias** – internal or persona l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that influence the perspective (belief system, personal gain, group id, etc) |