

Historical Source

Historical Sources are materials used for the writing of history.

Classifications

Published Materials	Published for public use, such as books, magazines, reading journals and such.
Manuscripts	Handwritten or typed record that has not been printed, like memoirs, diaries, and archival materials.
Non-Written Sources	Oral history, artifacts, ruins, fossils, artworks, and video and audio recordings.

Artifacts and Mentifacts

Artifact	A material made by man that describes the culture he belongs to.
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This does not refer solely to physical objects. Social Artifacts are also materials, but settle more on the social impact than the "-artifact" aspect.

Sociofact	They are ways in which people organize their society and relate to one another
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It is information, tradition, or event that associate to that artifact.

Mentifact	They are ideas, beliefs and values that people hold on, see, and associate to an artifact.
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Generally ideas that people think of when using the artifact, and relate it to their culture.

What is a Historical Method?

It is a process of systematically an account of what has happened in the past.

It uses Historical Criticism to evaluate Historical Sources

Its Importance:

Finding Solutions for Contemporary Problems	Understanding the Trends for Present and Future
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Understanding importance and repercussions found in cultures

Reevaluation of presented historical data and factoids.

Context VS Content

Content	The subjects or topics covered in a book or document. A matter dealt within a field of study.
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Context	It is the parts of a written or spoken statement that precede or follow a specific passage, influencing its meaning and effect.
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The Author's Perspective

Background	Short history of the Author's life.
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Point of View	Perspective used of the author that determines the "distance" of the author to the narrative that they are writing.
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Argument	Purpose. The stand or opinion of the Author.
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What is a Historical Method? (cont)

Attitude Similar to argument, but reflects more on the mood. It is observed how the Author addresses their argument. It reflects the current emotion of the Author at the time when it was written.

What are Primary Sources?

They are materials produced by people or groups directly involved in the event or topic being studied.

Either Participants or Eyewitnesses

Categories of Primary Sources

Written Sources	Images
Artifacts	Oral Testimonies

What are Secondary Sources?

They are materials that analyze primary sources.

May have pictures, quotes or graphics in them.

Historical Criticism

Within External Criticism:

Tests of Authenticity-

Author	Anachronistic Document Date
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Anachronistic Event Reference	Anachronistic Style
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Provenance or Custody	Semantics
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Hermeneutics

Within Internal Criticism:

Tests of Credibility-

Author's Identification	Ability to tell the truth
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Willingness to tell the truth	Corroboration
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