



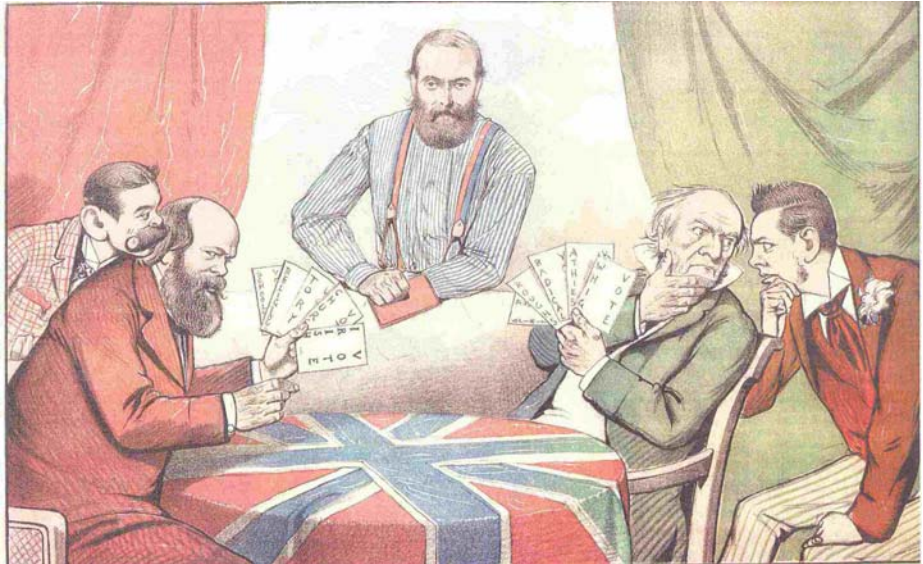
Why study history?

A future with your past



Why study history?

- Your choice of subject for Leaving Certificate may influence your future career or third level options
- Why not think about what history can offer?



Weekly Freeman, 1885



Why study history?

History will give you a combination of skills and insights that will help you to:

- Prepare you for work
- Enable you to participate fully in society
- Develop you as a person



John Redmond, 1893



Why study history?

- History is very relevant to modern life
- Many books, films and plays are inspired by historical events
- Many people enjoy history as a hobby, as can be seen in the popularity of history books, films and documentaries



Arthur Griffith



Michael Collins

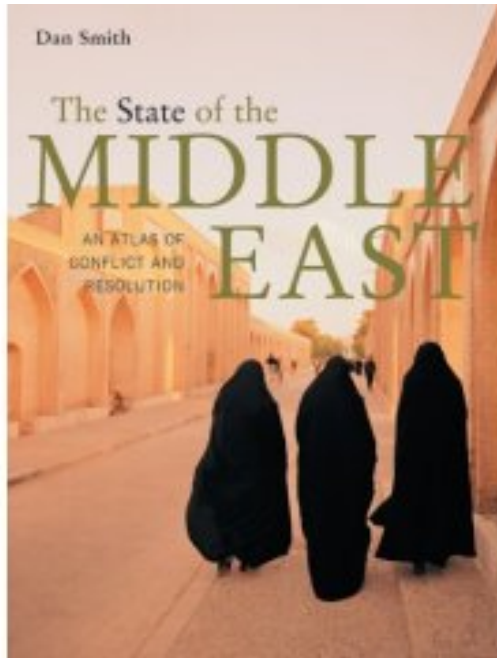


Why study history?

- History also helps us to understand many of the issues that affect the world today
- By broadening your knowledge of current affairs, you are developing yourself personally and preparing yourself more fully for adult and working life
- Can you think of any issues that affect the world that have their roots in history?



The Middle East





Why study history?

- History is unique in that it investigates how human life has changed over time
- You will develop your understanding of change through the perspectives of political, social, cultural, economic, religious and scientific history



Michael Collins, Apollo 11



Relevance to life

- You will develop an appreciation of the society in which you live and of other societies, past and present
- You will also develop a greater awareness of your own identity and traditions
- You will learn more about the particular role of women in shaping the past



Mary Robinson



Hanna Sheehy Skeffington



Relevance to careers

Employers tend to see those with a history education as:

- Independent thinkers
- Open-minded and objective
- Disciplined
- Good communicators
- Able to analyse issues and problems
- Able to put together logical arguments

Relevance to careers

Historians are regarded as having had an education that trains their minds to assemble, organise and present facts and opinions and this is a very useful quality in many walks of life and careers ... history is an excellent preparation for very many other jobs [*Which ?* magazine, 2000]



Eucharistic Congress, 1932



Communication skills

- The study of history is not just about interpreting the past but also presenting your thoughts
- History helps you to write in an organised, coherent, logical way, supporting your views with evidence
- This will help you in your other subjects, as well as in life and work later





Research skills

Your study of the past will introduce you to many different types of evidence, such as:

- Maps
- Photographs
- Political cartoons
- Diary entries
- Memoirs
- Photographs
- Official records

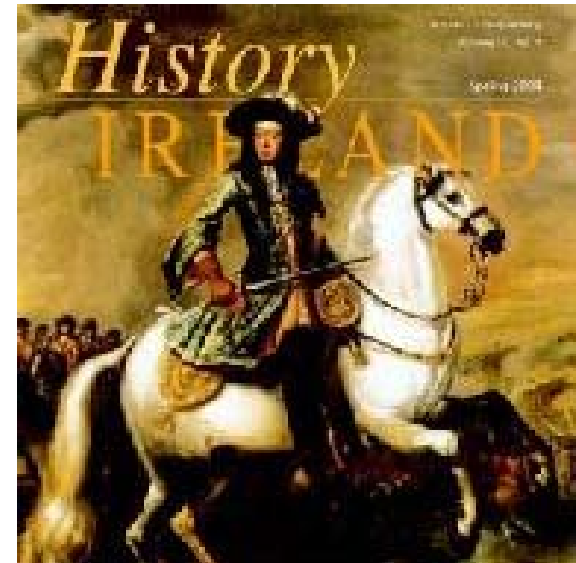


Building the Berlin Wall



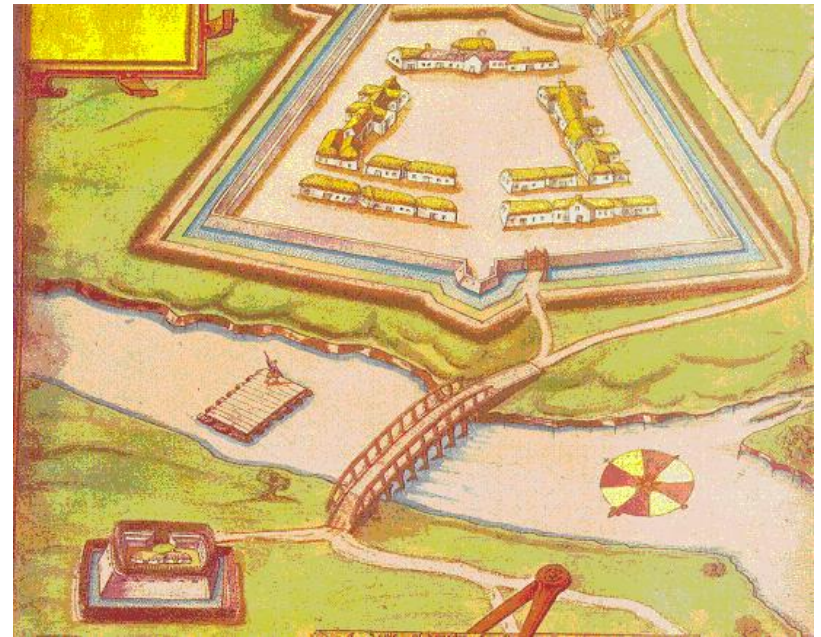
Research skills

- By exploring these types of evidence you will enhance your research skills
- You will become skilled at locating historical data from different sources, evaluating it and recording and presenting your findings
- You will also realise the importance of looking at issues from more than one point of view



Analytical skills

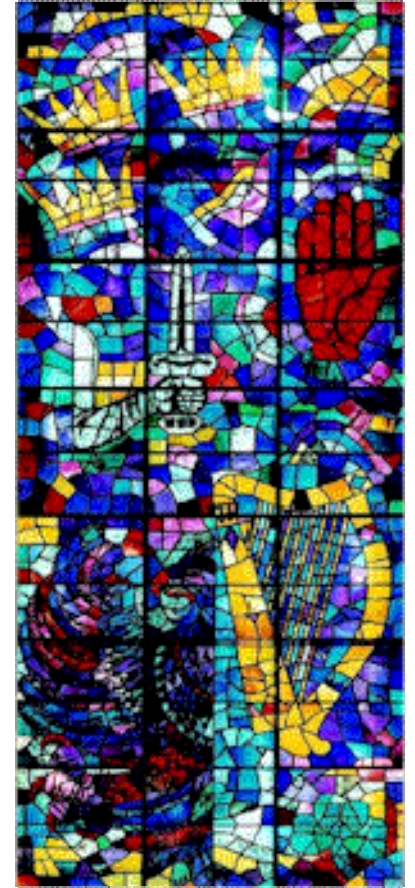
- You will also develop your ability to think critically, to evaluate the usefulness of sources, to detect bias or propaganda
- These skills are very useful in many careers and in everyday life



Bartlett's map of Tír Eoghain, 1602

ICT skills

- History allows you to access ICT, developing skills that are relevant to life and work today
- The Internet offers a huge range of appropriate historical web sites
- Many other electronic resources also exist for the study of history, such as CD-ROMs, library databases and catalogues
- The use of modern digital media makes studying history very enjoyable and stimulating



Evie Hone, Four Green Fields

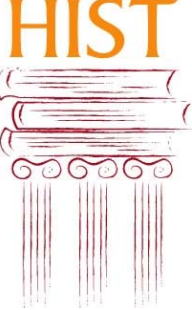


Why study history?

Leaving Cert history allows you to study two topics from Irish history and two from the history of Europe and the wider world



19th Century Ireland

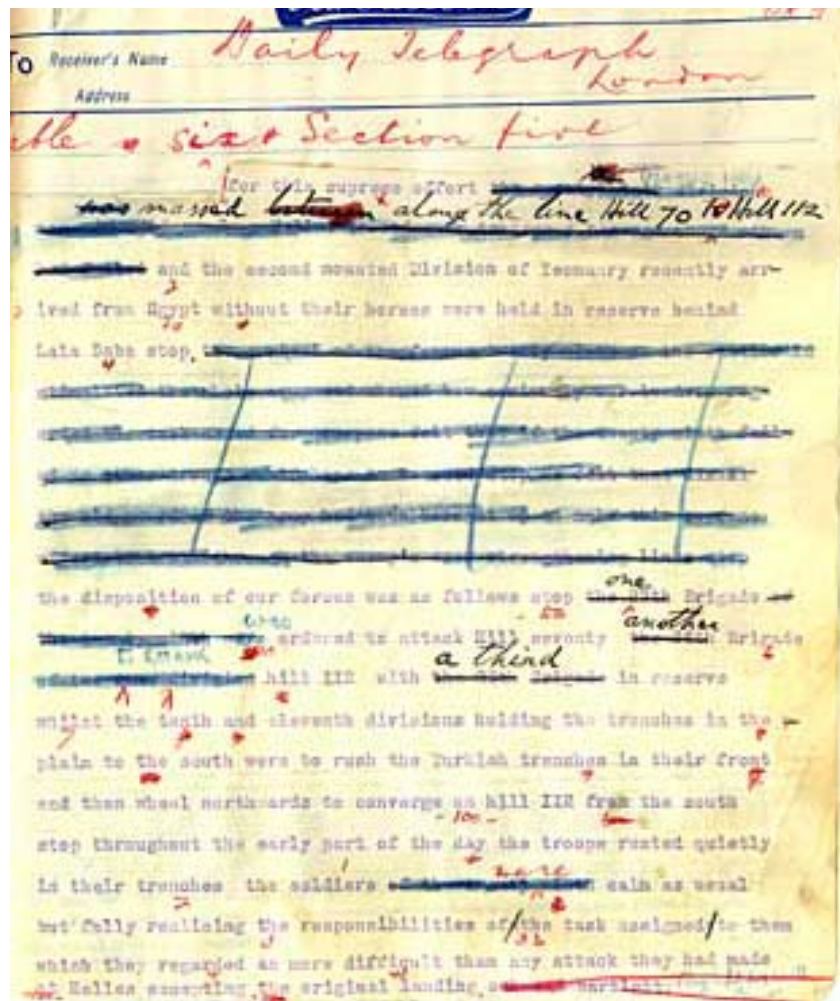


Why study history?

One of these topics will be studied with a particular focus on documents



Military censorship of journalist's report, 1915





Why study history?

You will also submit a report on a research study that you undertake on a subject that is of particular interest to you



Civil rights in USA

Why study history?

- History is who we are and why we are the way we are
(David McCullough)
- History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again
(Maya Angelou)

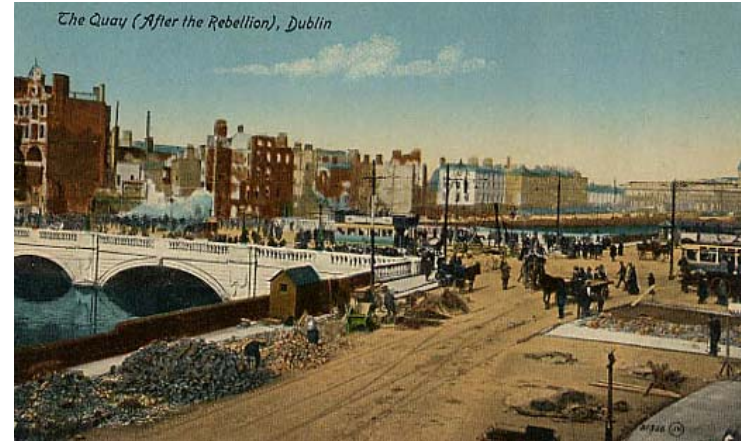


Fall of the Berlin Wall

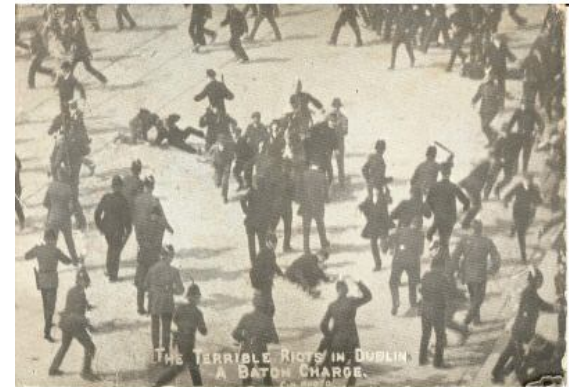
In conclusion

Choosing history allows you to acquire a combination of skills and insights that will

- broaden your understanding of the world
- develop you as a person
- prepare you for a future career
- enable you to participate fully in society.



Dublin after the 1916 rising



Baton charge in Dublin, 1913