

8/31/10

First discussion

A. Introductions

B. "A Sense of History: Some Components"

1. Time is important to history. "Study things from all different times to learn why"

2. Geography important.

3. Words don't always have the same meaning.

6. History is complicated. There are multiple reasons for events.

5. Finding text is good. You can understand historical figures more easily. Even though it's good, not all people from past were literate.

7. History is separate from theology, art, etc.

8. Without memory/past events, humans would not have much.

9. There's a lot of things going on in the world.

10. History has a lot of interpretation, don't always know if sources are truthful.

11. Hard to prove things without cause & effect.

12. Even though two things happen in the same time in history, they don't have to be linked.

13. Historians need to compare.

C. Three C's; Change, comparison, connection  
 a. Different disciplines use the 3 C's as well.  
 - sciences, music

D. Questions from readings

a. Why were spices so important?

b. Why do some societies have certain technologies + advantages when others do not?

C. Why assign Friedman + Diamond on same day?

a. spices + power are connected because both are from expansion.

b. gold from S. America displayed wealth →  
so did spices from Asia

D. Why assign these readings now instead?

a. conquest, wealth, & religion are important  
throughout history. Spice & conquest of  
Incas are examples of events & trends  
that repeat themselves.

E. Geography

a. climate has effect on agriculture.

b. certain species are located on certain  
continents; ex. the horses originate in  
Europe & not S. America. Europeans had  
horse advantage.

F. New animals (horses) & spices

a. Exotic things attract humans.

H. Religion

a. Spaniards wanted to conquer & take in the  
name of religion

b. still important today; Utah gov. influenced by  
LDS & Islamic Middle East  
influenced by Islam.

I. Why did the Inca get slaughtered so easily?

a. Not effective weapons or armor in  
comparison to Europeans

b. Atahualpa was captured who was comparable  
to their God

J. Greed, wealth, power

a. recurring trend

b. land = power & wealth