9 Historical Thinking Skills
(tools historians use to critically analyze and dissect sources and build arguments)

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| Skill Type | Historical Thinking Skills | Description |
| 1. Chronological Reasoning
 | 1. Historical Causation
 | Identify, analyze, & evaluate relationships among significant events:* Immediate, proximate, or long-term
* Correlation or coincidental
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| 1. Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time
 | Recognize, analyze, & evaluate the dynamics of history over periods of time through the discovery of patterns or themes. |
| 1. Periodization
 | Analyze & organize history into blocks of time or periods so that it is meaningful. |
| 1. Comparison &Contextualization
 | 1. Comparison
 | Describe, compare, contrast, and evaluate two or more historical developments from multiple perspectives. |
| 1. Contextualization
 | How a specific event or development fits into the context of a larger and broader historical development, often on the national or global scale. |
| 1. Crafting Historical Arguments
 | 1. Historical Argumentation
 | Analyze and address a question through the construction of a plausible and persuasive argument.* Thesis driven
* Support from relevant historical evidence
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| 1. Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence
 | Evaluate evidence from diverse sources:* Author’s point of view
* Intended audience
* Purpose
* Historical context
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| 1. Historical Interpretation & Synthesis
 | 1. Interpretation
 | Describe, analyze, and evaluate diverse interpretations of historical sources, and to construct one’s own interpretation. |
| 1. Synthesis
 | Applying all of the thinking skills to draw and fuse knowledge from diverse sources and disciplines to develop a persuasive understanding of the past.  |