## The Historian

Headings		Notes
WHAT IS HIS	TORY?	History is the study of the past.
		• A source is something that gives us information about a person, place or thing in the past.
		Prehistory is the period of the time before writing was used.
		Archaeology is the study of the remains left by people in the past.
THE STUDY OF HISTORY		<ul> <li>Studying history helps us to understand how human experience has shaped us, our society and</li> </ul>
		the world so we can learn from past mistakes or to be inspired.
		Historical consciousness means to be able to place ourselves in past human experience,
		linking the past, present and future.
		• A historian is someone who is an expert in, or student of, history.
		An archaeologist investigates places and objects left by people in the past, including the time
		before written records were kept.
THE JOB OF THE HISTORIAN		Historians must gather as much evidence as possible from different sources.
		An archive is a place that catalogues and stores collection or written, and other, sources.
		A museum is a place that collects and displays objects.
		<ul> <li>Cross-checking is when more than one source is used to make sure the information is correct.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>A primary source is a source from the time of the event; a first-hand account of what happened</li> </ul>
		A secondary source is a source from a later date, after the time of the event.
		Accuracy involves judging how correct the information is from a source.
WORKING W	ITH .	When an account is not balanced and unfairly favours one side, it shows bias or is biased.
SOURCES		•
		• Exaggeration is when something is represented as better or worse than it actually was.
		Propaganda is information that has been designed to influence the attitudes of the general
		public.
		• There are many different types of sources: written (diaries, letters, government records), visua
		(photographs, posters, drawings), aural (recorded interviews, podcasts, speeches), oral
		(interviews carried out by the researcher) and tactile (artefacts and handling boxes)
Keywords		Summary
History	Archive	We study history to learn from past human experiences so we can understand the growth of the
Source	Museum	world, our society and ourselves. We use both primary and secondary sources to investigate th
Prehistory	Accuarcy	past. Historians and archaeologists work together to complete a picture of what life was like in
Archaeology	Bias	the past. We must gather as much evidence from museums and archives to cross-check the
Historian	Propaganda	information we find. This makes sure our evidence is accurate and not biased. We must be
Archaeologist	Exaggeration	careful to avoid as much exaggeration, especially when researching propaganda.
Cross-checking		
Evidence		

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TIME AND TIMELINES	Chronology is used to put events into the order/sequence in which they happened.	
	Historians use timelines to put these events into order.	
	BCE BEFORE COMMON ERA  Stone Age  Stone Age  BCE COMMON ERA  Stone Age  BC BEFORE CHRIST  ANNO DOMINI  A decade is 10 years; A century is 100 years; A millennium is 1,000 years.	
REINTERPRETING	New evidence may lead to history being reinterpreted.	
HISTORY	• Reinterpretation means to see something in a new or different light, usually after some time	
	has passed or new evidence has been discovered.	
HISTORICAL	A historical repository is a place where evidence of the past can be stored and maintained.	
REPOSITORIES	People often visit these places to study the evidence stored here such as artefacts, government	
	documents, manuscripts or photographs.	
	Examples of historical repositories include:	
	The National Museum of Ireland	
	The National Archives of Ireland	
	The National Library of Ireland	
	The Glasnevin Cemetery Museum	
	The GPO Museum	
	EPIC: The Irish Emigration Museum	
	Titanic Belfast	
	The GAA Museum, Croke Park	
	Historical repositories add to our knowledge about people's lives and the past.	
Keywords	Summary	
Chronology	Historians use timelines to put events into chronological order. These events are grouped into	
Timeline	periods of: decades, centuries and millennium. Years after an even has taken place, new	
Decade	evidence may lead to historical reinterpretation. Museums and archives are part of historical	
Century	repositories where historians may find and study evidence from the past.	
Millennium		
Reinterpretation		

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Keywords	Definition
Archaeologist	<ul> <li>Someone who investigates places and objects left by people in the past, including the time before written records were kept.</li> </ul>
Archaeology	<ul> <li>The study of the past, based on material remains.</li> </ul>
Archive	A place where historical documents are stored and studied.
Artefact	An object of historical interest made by a human being.
Autobiography	An account of a person's life written by the person themselves.
Bias	A viewpoint that favours one side over another.
Biography	An account of a person's life written by someone else.
Census	An official count of the population.
Century	A time span of one hundred years.
Chronology	Series of dates and events in the order they occurred.
Cross-Checking	When more than one source is used to make sure the information is correct.
Decade	A time span of ten years.
Empathy	<ul> <li>The ability to understand and share the feelings of another person; for example, looking at history from the perspective of the people who lived at the time.</li> </ul>
Exaggeration	<ul> <li>When something is represented as better or worse than it actually was.</li> </ul>
Fact	<ul> <li>Something known to have happened; something that is known to be true</li> </ul>
Handling Box	<ul> <li>Contains replicas (copies) of artefacts so that anyone can examine them without damaging an original.</li> </ul>
Heritage Centre	<ul> <li>A type of museum that stores, preserves and displays important objects relating to the history and culture of its local area</li> </ul>
Historian	<ul> <li>Someone who is an expert, or a student of, history.</li> </ul>
Historical Consciousness	<ul> <li>Being able to place ourselves in past human experience, linking the past, the present and the future.</li> </ul>
Historical Era	A period of history with common features
Historical Repository	<ul> <li>A place where evidence of the past can be stored and maintained.</li> </ul>
History	The study of the past, based on evidence.
Library	<ul> <li>A building or room containing collections of books, periodicals, and sometimes films and recorded music for use or borrowing by the public or the members of an institution</li> </ul>
Museum	<ul> <li>A building in which artefacts are stored and put on display.</li> </ul>
Objective	<ul> <li>Historical judgment or view not influenced by a person's feelings or opinions in considering what happened</li> </ul>
Opinion	<ul> <li>A view or judgement formed about what happened; can be objective or subjective</li> </ul>