

## Thinking about Why We Study History



- Read the quotes that each address the study of history.
- Select 4 that really catch your interest.



## Thinking about Why We Study History



- Reread the four quotes that were the class's top choices to examine more closely.
- Try to figure out what each person is saying.
- Be able to support your version of what each quote means by referring to specific parts of the quote that speak to your interpretation.





## Thinking about Why We Study History

- Choose which of the four quotes you find the most valid.

Valid - definition - rationale, reasonable, defensible

- Write your name (first and last) and hour and the number assigned to the quote on the slip you are given.
- Pass the slip forward.



## Thinking about Why We Study History Four Corners Activity

- Mrs. Fitzgerald will call your name and assign you to a group and a place to go to discuss the quote you indicated and how it relates to the other three quotes.
- You will discuss the quote with your group and then return to share your ideas with other groups.



Thinking about Why We Study History  
Four Corners Activity



Discuss the following:

- The meaning of your group's quote
- How this relates to the other three quotes.
- You may want to jot down ideas, as all group members are expected to be able to participate in discussion, NOT a single spokesperson.



Thinking about Why We Study History  
Four Corners Activity



Discussion Norms?

- What behaviors are expected of a person in a discussion?



“When I was in school I studied biology. I learned that scientists will take some group and subject that group to certain conditions. They compare the results with a control group which has not been disturbed. It is the control group which enables the scientist to gauge the effect of his experiment. To judge the significance of what has occurred.

In history there are no control groups. There is no one to tell us what might have been. We weep over the might have been, but there is no might have been. There never was.

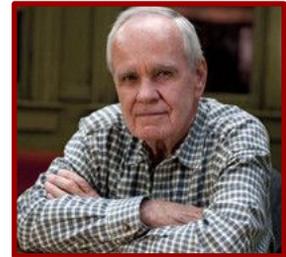
It is supposed to be true that those who do not know history are condemned to repeat it. I don't believe knowing can save us.

What is constant in history is greed and foolishness and a love of blood and this is a thing that even God, who knows all that can be known, seems powerless to change.”

Cormac McCarthy

(1933 - )

Pulitzer Prize-winning Author



“. . . to learn historical dates and events by heart and recite them by rote . . . . by the living God, this is very unimportant. To 'learn' history means to seek and find the forces which are the causes leading to those effects which we subsequently perceive as historical events.”

Adolf Hitler, in *Mein Kampf*

(1889-1945)

German politician, leader of the Nazi Party, Chancellor of Germany , and Führer ("Leader") of Nazi Germany



“The science of government it is my duty to study, more than all other sciences; the arts of legislation and administration and negotiation ought to take the place of. . . all other arts.

I must study politics and war, that our sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy.

Our sons ought to study mathematics and philosophy, geography, natural history and naval architecture, navigation, commerce and agriculture in order to give their children

a right to study painting, poetry, music, architecture, statuary, tapestry and porcelain.”

John Adams  
(1735 - 1826)

Second President of the United States 1797 - 1801



“We believe the one who has power. He is the one who gets to write the story.

So when you study history, you must ask yourself, Whose story am I missing? Whose voice was suppressed so that this voice could come forth?

Once you have figured that out, you must find that story too. From there you get a clearer, yet still imperfect, picture.”

— Yaa Gyasi,

born in Ghana and raised in Alabama. graduate of the University of Iowa where she currently holds the holds Dean's Graduate Research Fellowship, her debut novel *Homegoing* won the American Book Award last year, she is 26 years old



“History never really says goodbye. History says, 'See you later.'”

Eduardo Galeano (1940 – 2015)

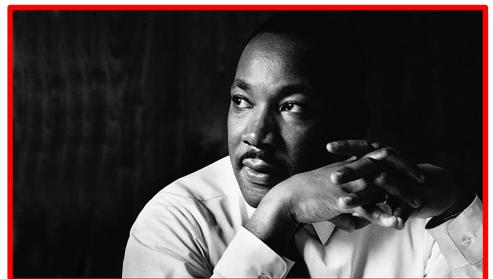
An Uruguayan journalist, writer and novelist considered, among other things, "global soccer's pre-eminent man of letters" and "a literary giant of the Latin American left".



“We are not makers of history. We are made by history.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
(1929 – 1968)

an American Baptist minister and activist who became the most visible spokesperson and leader of the civil rights movement



“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.”

Marcus Garvey  
(1887-1940)

Civil Rights Activist



“There is nothing new in the world except the history you do not know.”

President Harry Truman  
(1884 -1972)

President, Vice President,  
Senator from Missouri,  
and World War I Veteran,  
Major in the U.S. Army



“People are trapped in history and history is trapped in them.”

James Baldwin  
(1924 -1987)

American novelist and social critic



“History must share with reading, writing and arithmetic first rank as the most important subjects in the curriculum.

Understanding the issues on which citizens of a republic are expected to vote is impossible without an understanding of the past. ”

Walter Cronkite  
(1916 - 2009)

CBS News Journalist and Head Anchor

