

HISTORICAL INQUIRY QUESTIONS

ROUTE TO INQUIRY	SIMPLE KEY QUESTIONS	SUMMARY QUESTIONS	MORE COMPLEX KEY QUESTIONS
Observation and perception	What?	What do I observe? What are my perceptions? How do others view it? What has been said about it?	What are the issues and problems being studied? What is their spatial and temporal scale? What patterns of are there?
Definition and description	What, where and when?	What is it like? What is it all about? What is in the background in the wider context? Where is it? When was it or will it be? Has it changed over time?	What natural processes and human activities are occurring? Where are the links between then natural and human environments? What will happen if these relationships are altered? What changes will occur? Are these desirable and if so, for whom?
Analysis and exploration (reasoning)	How and why?	Why is it there? Why / how did it happen? What processes are involved? Why is it like this?	How are the natural and human environments interrelated? How is the phenomenon structured?
Processing, prediction and evaluation	What might? What will? What will the impact be?	What are the alternative viewpoints? What might happen? What will the impact be? How can these impacts be measured? How can these impacts be controlled?	What are the effects of these processes? How can these effects be evaluated?
Decision-making	What decision? What will the impact of the decision be?	What decision is likely to be made?	How can these effects be evaluated? What alternatives should be considered in making decisions about changes? Who decides and for whom? Who gains and who loses as a result of the decision? What criteria could be used to evaluate the appropriate responses?
Personal evaluation and judgement (metacognition)	What do I think? Why do I think this? How should it happen?	Which alternative should I choose and why? How can I justify my view?	What criteria could be used to evaluate the appropriate responses?
Personal response Participating	What should I do next?	Should I take action?	How well do I participate in society?