

YEAR 5 HISTORY

EXPLORE • QUESTION • EVALUATE

Kings, civilisations and evidence:
how do historians explain the past?

KNOW IT

Key Historical Vocabulary

- monarchy
- kingdom
- king
- archaeologist
- civilisation
- trade
- sacrifice
- hierarchy
- evidence
- legacy

UNDERSTAND IT

By the end of Year 5, I understand:

Anglo-Saxons & Monarchy

- why Anglo-Saxons came to Britain
- Anglo-Saxon kingdoms
- kings and rulers
- how life and society changed

Mayan Civilisation

- Mayan cities and settlements
- society and hierarchy
- religion, beliefs and sacrifice
- trade and achievements

Historical Enquiry

- how archaeologists find evidence
- different interpretations
- causes and consequences
- historical significance and legacy

USE IT

I can:

- interpret historical evidence
- identify causes and consequences
- compare different explanations
- investigate artefacts and sources
- explain historical changes
- use historical vocabulary accurately
- support ideas with evidence

PROVE IT

I can:

- evaluate competing explanations
- decide which evidence is strongest
- explain causes and consequences
- make reasoned judgements
- justify conclusions using evidence
- communicate historical arguments clearly

DIFFERENT PEOPLE
DIFFERENT IDEAS
A RICHER UNDERSTANDING

YOUR HISTORY JOURNEY

1 THE ANGLO-SAXONS

Why did they come to Britain?

- migration
- kingdoms
- monarchy
- settlements
- daily life
- conflict and change

Can I explain why Anglo-Saxons settled in Britain?

2 KINGS & KINGDOMS

How did monarchy shape society?

- rulers and leaders
- laws and power
- kingdoms and alliances
- everyday life
- changes over time

Can I explain how monarchies shaped society?

3 THE MAYANS

What made the Mayan civilisation special?

- cities and settlements
- society and hierarchy
- trade and economy
- religion, beliefs and sacrifice
- achievements (e.g. calendars, writing)

Can I describe life in the Mayan civilisation?

4 SOLVING HISTORICAL MYSTERIES

How do we find out about the past?

- archaeologists
- artefacts and sources
- different theories
- considering evidence
- cause and consequence

Can I evaluate different explanations about the past?

5 THINK LIKE A HISTORIAN

Which explanation is most convincing?

- gather evidence
- compare explanations
- weigh the evidence
- make a judgement
- present and justify conclusions

Can I decide which explanation is most convincing?

RETRIEVAL PROMPTS

- Why did Anglo-Saxons come to Britain?
- Name one Mayan contribution.
- What is a consequence of invasion?
- What does an archaeologist do?
- What is historical evidence?

Think like a historian...

PRACTICE LADDER

- Source collection**
Gather evidence from a range of sources.
- Cause & consequence mapping**
Connect events and their outcomes.
- Compare historiographical explanations**
Explore different theories.
- Debate evidence weights**
Decide which evidence is strongest.
- Structured written judgement**
Explain your conclusion.
- End project**
Present your final historical enquiry.

START / END CHECKPOINT

Historical Enquiry Task

- Write a 100-word balanced response evaluating one theory (e.g. Mayan decline).
- Cite two pieces of evidence.

Can I explain and evaluate competing historical explanations?

★ THE YEAR 5 HISTORIAN

By the end of Year 5, I can:

- Explain causes and consequences.
- Understand Anglo-Saxon Britain.
- Describe the achievements of the Maya.
- Use evidence to answer historical questions.
- Evaluate different explanations.
- Make reasoned historical judgements.
- Support my conclusions with evidence.

