Supported preparation: Investigation and historical reflection

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · History · SL

Scope and prerequisites

IB history first assessment 2017; 2028 course recorded separately. School selects one of five prescribed subjects (both cases), two of twelve world-history topics; HL selects one region with three sections. No selection is silently implied. Future 2028 focused/thematic studies are a different course.

Mapped preparation outcomes: ib_history_sl.3.1, ib_history_sl.3.2. Read the matching native lesson first. Actual approved choices, evidence and final learner work remain separate.

Source vocabulary

historical inquiry ; **significance** .

Explanation and worked method

Focus a question on an issue, period and setting that surviving sources can address. Build a source inventory, cite exact sources and distinguish evaluation, argument and reflection on historical method.

Original source / task evidence

Task: only committee records survive. A pupil proposes to reconstruct everyone's feelings.

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
Investigation and historical reflection

Task: only committee records survive. A pupil proposes to reconstruct everyone's feelings. Revise the question and reflect on the limitation.

Ask how the committee justified a bounded decision during a specified period, while noting that official records may omit dissent and users' experiences. Seek other surviving evidence without inventing testimony. Reflection explains selection and survival of records, not how hard the pupil worked.

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Independent transfer

A private letter survives after an official-record-only investigation. Is it automatically more truthful?

Attempt independently before reading the model.

Checked original model

No. It can reveal a different perspective or omitted experience, but purpose, author, context and corroboration still matter. Revise the source range and question if justified; private status alone establishes neither accuracy nor representativeness.

These are authored formative expectations, not official IB descriptors. Accept other justified arguments with evidence and material limits.

Source and task holds

This supplement teaches the method for this part of the course. The full assessment criteria and any texts your school chooses come from your teacher.

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