

Decoding Communication in History: The Key to Understanding

Step 1 - Declare a topic

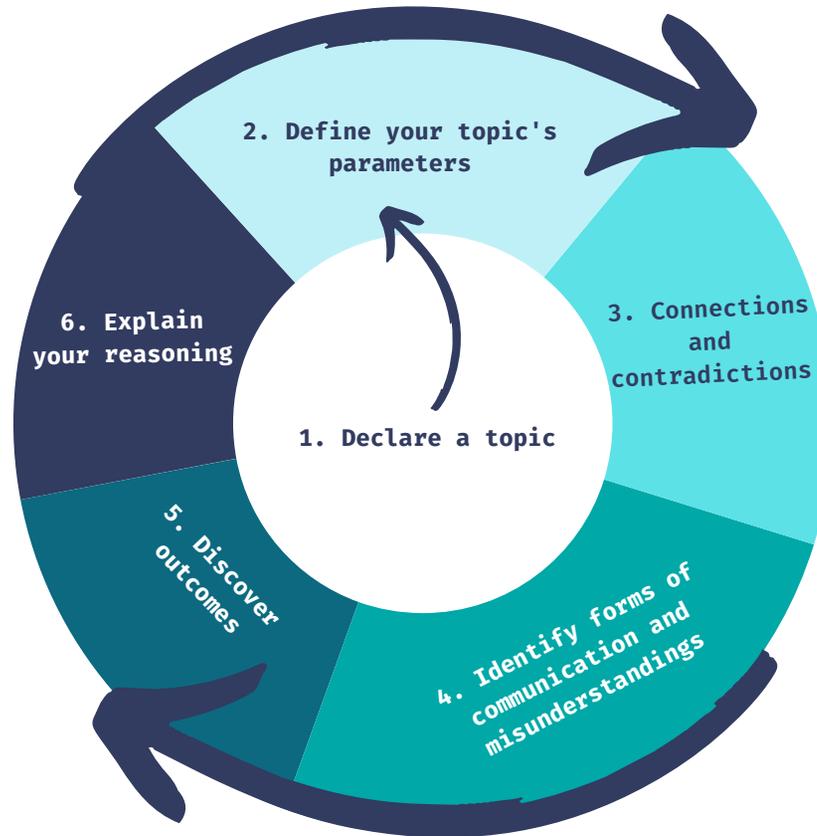
Step 2 - Define your topic's parameters

Step 3 - Connections and contradictions

Step 4 - Identify forms of communication and misunderstandings

Step 5 - Discover outcomes

Step 6 - Explain your reasoning



Decoding Communication in History: The Key to Understanding

Step 1 - Declare a topic

- What interests you?
- Is there a time period you are interested in? How did people communicate during this time?
- Is there something discussed in class you would like to learn more about?
- What types of communication interest you? Are people communicating or is there miscommunication?

Step 2 - Define your topic's parameters

- What is the start date of your topic?
- What is the end date?
 - Remember, if your topic is too big or covers too long a period, it makes it harder to research and form strong arguments.
- Where does your event take place?
 - In a city? In a town? What country?
- What does the time period look like?
 - What other historical events are happening at the same time as the event you are researching?

Step 3 - Connections and contradictions

- Who is involved in your story? Is there more than one person? What, if any, groups are involved?
- Are there people or groups collaborating or cooperating with each other?
- Are all the groups working toward the same goal? Do they agree or disagree with each other?
- Is one group more invested?
- Are there people working in opposition to each other?

Step 4 - Identify forms of communication and misunderstandings

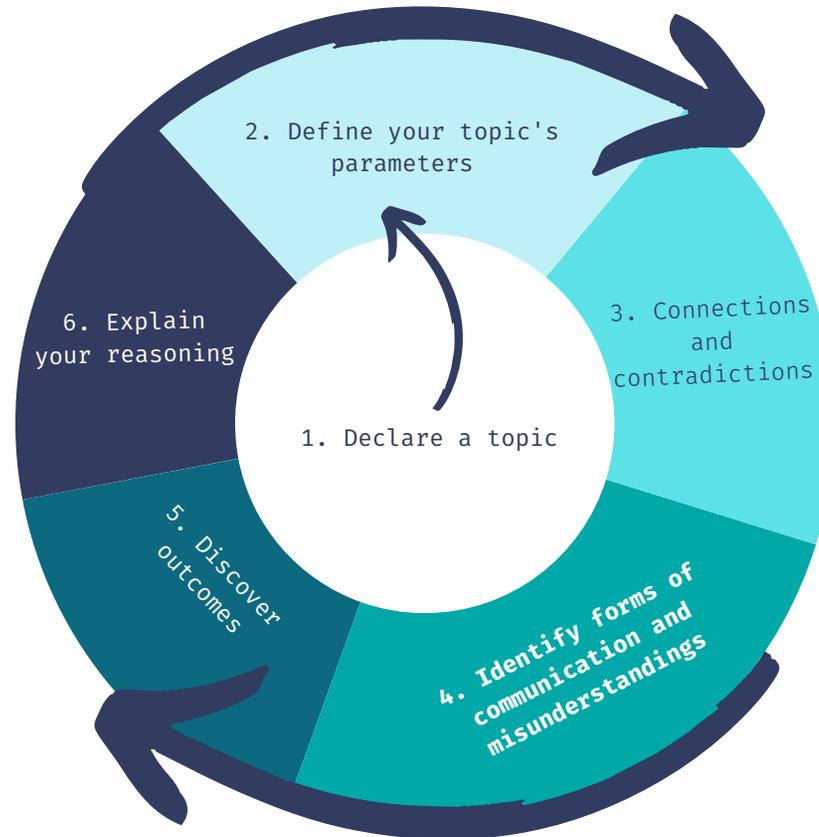
- What are the misunderstandings or miscommunications between people involved?
- How/Why does the misunderstanding start?
- Does the misunderstanding cause problems for the parties involved? Does the misunderstanding help? How?
- Do the people involved try to fix the situation? How?

Step 5 - Discover outcomes

- What are the result of this communication?
- What are the short-term changes resulting from this communication or miscommunication?
- What are the long-term changes resulting from this communication or miscommunication?

Step 6 - Explain your reasoning

- How does the topic apply to the theme of *Communication in History: The Key to Understanding*?
 - Think about the argument you are trying to make here.
- Why is this event important to our understanding of history?
- Does this event challenge our way of thinking?
- How does it impact our world today?



Level One Teacher Prompt Questions

Decoding Communication in History: The Key to Understanding

Step 1 - Declare a topic

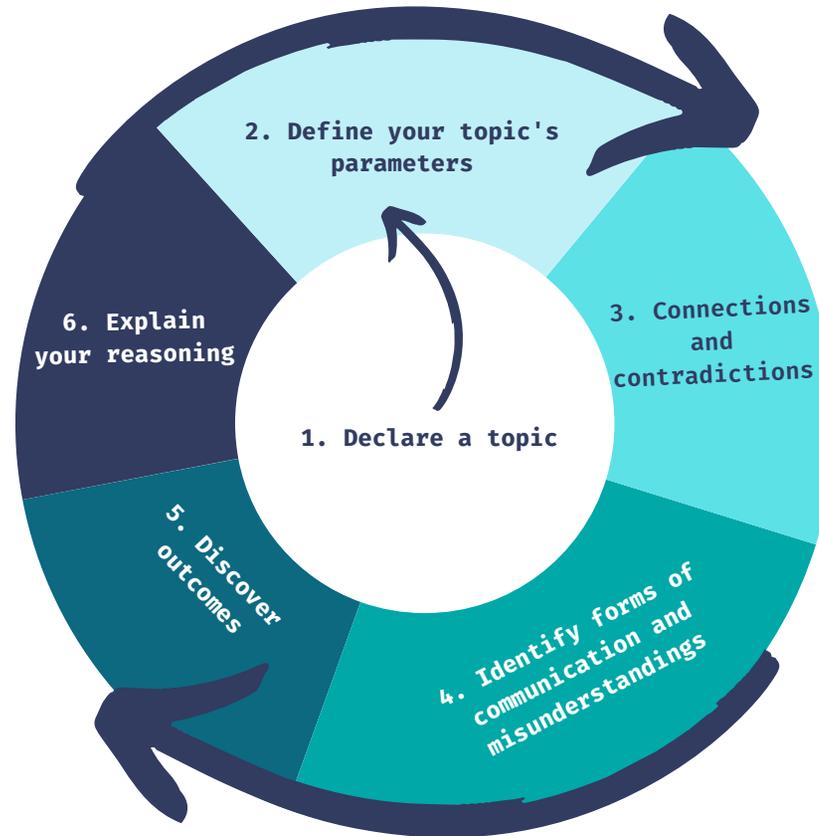
- Is there something discussed in class you would like to learn more about?
- What types of communication interest you? Are people communicating or is there miscommunication?
- How do people communicate with each other in history? Does communication lead to misunderstandings?
- Why do people need to communicate with each other?
- Are there different ways we communicate?

Step 2 - Define your topic's parameters

- How do other historical events effect the topic you have chosen? What role do they play?
- Does the time period create challenges for the people involved?
- Does the location of the event impact the story?

Step 3 - Connections and contradictions

- In your topic, how do people or groups work together? Why do they need to work together?
- Are these connections positive or negative? Or a mix of both?
- Do all these connections include all people or are some people left?



Level Two Teacher Prompt Questions

Step 4 - Identify forms of communication and misunderstandings

- Does the misunderstanding or conflict escalate problems for the parties involved?
- Do the people involved try to deescalate the situation?
- How, if possible, do the groups become enemies or allies after the miscommunication? Do groups agree to disagree?
- How does the miscommunication affect the relationship among those involved?
- Does the miscommunication drag new people or groups into the conversation?

Step 5 - Discover outcomes

- What, if any, is the resolution?
- Does everyone get what they want in the end? Why or why not?
- Does this topic change the way people involved work with each other?
- Do new problems or changes arise? What are the immediate impacts of these changes or problems?

Step 6 - Explain your reasoning

- How does the topic apply to the theme of *Communication in History: The Key to Understanding*?
 - Think about the argument you are trying to make here.
- Why is this event important to our understanding of history?
- Does this event challenge our way of thinking?
- What impact does it have on our world today?