

## *Live Lesson Notes*

# History

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### **What you will learn in this worksheet:**

Useful links

Useful vocabulary

Discussion about historical events

Discussion about historical people

Idioms to talk about personal finance

# Useful Links

## Easy English

[https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient\\_history](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient_history)

## Amazing Timelines of History

<https://www.wdl.org/en/sets/world-history/timeline/#1>

## Game Time - What came first?

<https://artsandculture.google.com/experiment/what-came-first/ZQGBUPErEE3bVg>

## Historic events

<https://artsandculture.google.com/category/event?tab=pop>

## History related phrases

<https://www.phrases.org.uk/phrase-thesaurus/related/history.html>

## Which **historical leader** are you? **Quiz**

<https://www.proprofs.com/quiz-school/story.php?title=oty2ndu2wt8w>



## Join The Library

<https://keith-speaking-academy.teachable.com/p/the-library>

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# IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: History

Here is some useful vocabulary to talk confidently on the **IELTS Speaking topic** of History

*“History is written by the victors”*

- Winston Churchill

*The topic of History, is one of those topics that many adults may not have studied since school. So when it comes up in IELTS Speaking, some students get nervous. It's like the topics of Art, Maths, Science and other school subjects.*

*However, remember, you do **not** need to be an expert in the subject. You just need a few ideas and good enough English to express those ideas.*

*Here are some expressions to talk about whether you like the topic of history or not.*

I am into history

I am a history buff (=I like it)

I don't **really** like history

I am not **overly** interested **in** history

History is not my thing

History is not really my cup of tea

*Some useful words from the 'History' word family are:*

- History (n.)
- Historic (adj.)
- Historical (adj.)
- Historian (person)
- Historically (adv.)

Many students confuse 'historic' and 'historical'. Here is the difference:

**Historic** (adj.) = important and famous

**Historical** (adj.) = related to a period in history

You can see the difference in the 2 sentences below:



1. When Charlotte Worthington won the BMX Olympic gold it was a **historic** / ~~historical~~ moment.

2. We can use this ~~historic~~ / **historical** map to help us explore the city.

## IELTS Speaking: Periods in History

*There are 4 main periods in history. It is most likely in IELTS Speaking that you will talk about number 2, 3 or 4, but probably not number 1.*

1. **Pre-history** (before 3000 BC). We use archaeology to look at prehistory.

2. **Ancient history** (3000 BC to 500 AD). This is since writing began.

[https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient\\_history](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient_history)

3. **Post-classical history** (The Middle Ages: 500 AD - 1500 AD)

4. **Modern history** (1600 AD onwards, post Age of Reason / Age of Enlightenment)

*If you want to find out some interesting events to talk about, it can be useful to explore a Timeline like the one below:*

### **Amazing Timelines of History**

<https://www.wdl.org/en/sets/world-history/timeline/#1>

# IELTS Discussion: Historical Events

Unfortunately, most historic events will leave you a bit depressed, as they tend to involve death.

Take a look at some recent historic events on Google and you will see the following:

- Wars
- Assassinations (= *murder of a famous person*)
- Revolutions
- Crises

**Get some ideas of Historic Events here:**

<https://artsandculture.google.com/category/event?tab=pop>

*However, the important thing is to be able to talk about these in English. Here are some useful phrases:*

It took place in 1892

It goes back a long time...it happened in \_\_\_\_\_

It happened at the start of the century

It happened at the turn of the century

It dates back to 1917

It dates back to the last century

What happened was \_\_\_\_\_ (add an explanation of what happened in the event)

**IELTS Speaking Tip:** Don't worry if you forget the date of something, Sometimes, it's better not to give exact dates because if you do, it may sound like you have memorised the whole answer. You can use an expression like this:

I don't remember the **exact** date, but it was at the turn of the last century.

The turn of the last century = *the start of the last century*

### **Hypothesising / Imagining Changes in History**

*Talking about how history might have been different, can also be a good opportunity to show off your control of grammar,*

*You can use the 3rd conditional here in 2 ways.*

1) Talk about a consequence in the past.

*Imagine I talk about an event hundreds of years ago. For example, there was a man, Guy Fawkes, who tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament in Britain, but he failed!*

*I can imagine if history were different, saying:*

If he had succeeded, he would have changed the course of history

2) Talk about a consequence in the present.

If he had succeeded, Britain would be very different today



## IELTS Discussion: Influential Historical People

*Here are some useful phrases to describe the influence people have:*

- He was very **influential**
- He had **a lot of sway** (informal)
- He carried a lot of weight (informal)
- He had a lot of authority
- He left his mark on society (= *he had an impact*)

## IELTS Speaking Idioms about History

This will **go down in history** (=to become famous; e.g. an event or a person)

*He will go down in history as one of the \_\_\_\_\_ presidents in America.*

This will **make history**

*Yesterday's final of the World Cup was amazing; it will make history*

**He is history!** = *He is finished (end of their career)*

*After that scandal, the president is history.*

If I **could put the clock back**, I would do things differently.

**Many moons ago** = *a long time ago*

*I visited Paris many moons ago.*