

What is

history?

HISTORY

is the process of enquiry

- the search for evidence
- the examination of evidence
- the recording of evidence
- the interpretation and weighing of different sorts of evidence

HISTORY

is the product of imaginative reconstruction

- because evidence is nearly always incomplete and fragmentary
- speculation and hypothesising
- we imagine how it might have been and we fill in the gaps left by the evidence

HISTORY

is describing and explaining the past

Having synthesised the narrative, and arguments based on evidence. NOT presenting the past as a series of uncontested facts or literal truths