



Analyzing Historical Explanations

Today's Standard

11-12.RH.3 - Evaluate various explanations for actions or events and determine which explanation best accords with textual evidence, acknowledging where the text leaves matters uncertain.

Cues	Notes
What is textual evidence?	Textual evidence refers to specific details or information from a text that supports an argument or explanation.
Why is evaluating explanations important?	Evaluating explanations allows us to determine which ones are most credible and supported by evidence, leading to a better understanding of historical events.
What is a primary source?	A primary source is an original document or firsthand account from the time period being studied.
How can uncertainty affect historical interpretation?	Uncertainty in historical interpretation can arise from incomplete or contradictory evidence, reflecting the complexity of historical events.
What are common misconceptions about historical texts?	Common misconceptions include the belief that all explanations are equally valid and that uncertainty in a text means it is unreliable.

Summary

Understanding and evaluating textual evidence is crucial for analyzing historical events. Students must learn to weigh different explanations and recognize the complexity of historical interpretation, avoiding common misconceptions.