

Definitions and Explanation of Terms on the Global History and Geography II Regents Exam

The following terms are defined by the New York State Department of Education in the following documents: [Revised Part 2 Prototype, March, 2018](#), [Understanding the CRQ, March 2018](#), and [Rubrics for Part 3, March, 2018](#).

Term	Definition According to NYSED	Provided on the exam?
Audience	<p>Audience refers to the group for whom a given document or source was produced or intended. When thinking about audience ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Why does this work/document exist? ● Who was the author thinking would receive this work/document? ● Does the author of the work/document indicate who the intended audience is? 	No
Bias	<p>Bias refers to one-sidedness. It always implies the opposite of objectivity. Instead of presenting facts in a neutral way, without inserting one’s particular slant or opinion, bias is usually expressed in one of several ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Through the use of “loaded” language, including appeals to emotion, exaggeration, or propaganda designed to frame person, event, group, or institution in an overly positive or overly negative manner, e.g., the wicked, barbaric soldiers who rampage the countryside, wantonly destroying the property of innocent, unsuspecting civilians ● Through the deliberate inclusion or deliberate exclusion of certain facts to support a particular interpretation, including a lack of balance or an argument where only one side is presented and specific details are overemphasized, downplayed, or omitted ● Through character attacks and slurs, including subjective statements against a particular race, nation, or group within a society. <p>An author may have a reason for being one-sided. Bias may result from limited access to information, unquestioned traditions, and/or life experiences. Unreasoned judgement or a prejudiced outlook can produce bias. Bias may be indicated by knowledge about the background of the author who may have a specific point of view: political, economic, social, religious, or moral.</p> <p>Being biased does not limited the values of a source; however, it does affect how evidence from the biased source is used.</p>	No
Cause	Refers to something that contributes to the occurrence of an event, the rise of an idea, or the bringing about of a development	Yes
Difference	Tells how something is not alike or not the same as something else.	Yes
Effect	Refers to what happens as a consequence (result, impact, outcome) of an event, an idea, or a development.	Yes
Enduring Issue	An enduring issue is a challenge or problem that has been debated or discussed across time. An enduring issue It is one that many societies have attempted to address with varying degrees of success.	Yes
Evidence	<p>Refers to information or details from a source that can be used for a specific purpose, such as drawing a conclusion or formulating an argument</p> <p>Determining evidence from a source:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is based on the interpretation of the source(s) ● Is based on the examination/questioning of sources to determine/judge/interpret if a source is authentic, if it is biased, if it is accurate, and therefore if it is reliable 	No

	<p>Evidence from a source can be used to support, extend, or challenge a historical argument. Evidence and sources are NOT the same thing. Evidence, like sources, needs to be analyzed and evaluated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All evidence is not of equal validity. • All valid evidence is not of equal relevance. • All valid relevant evidence is not of equal significance. 	
Explain	Means to make plain or understandable; to give reasons for or causes of; to show the logical development or relationship of something	Yes
Geographic Context	Refers to where this historical development/event is taking place and why it is taking place there.	Yes
Historical Context	Refers to the historical circumstances that led to this event/idea/historical development.	Yes
Identify	Means to put a name to or to name	Yes
Point of View	<p>Point of view is an opinion. Historians use point of view <i>differently</i> than English teachers who define point of view as first person, second person, and third person.</p> <p>Difference between point of view and bias: An author may express an objective point of view on an issue in a balanced way OR may express an opinion that shows bias by providing unreasoned or poorly supported beliefs and/or strong personal feelings.</p>	No
Primary Source	For historians, primary sources are materials from the time period being studied. These original documents offer the freshness that comes from direct personal observation but lack the benefit that only comes from hindsight. These materials include letters, speeches, diaries, newspaper articles, oral history interviews, documents, photographs, and artifacts. They can also include less obvious sources (songs, plays, poems, advertisements, survey data, legal documents, and financial documents) as long as they come directly from the time period in question and provide relevant historical evidence.	No
Purpose	<p>Purpose refers to the reason a record, document, or source was produced.</p> <p>When thinking about audience ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why does this work/document exist? • Why did the author create this work/document? • What is the intent of this work/document? 	No
Reliability	Reliability in history refers to how accurate and useful a source is for a specific purpose. No source is necessarily reliable or unreliable for every purpose. A source such as Paul Revere's engraving of the Boston Massacre may be unreliable for telling the <i>facts</i> about the Boston Massacre but it could be reliable for telling about what the Sons of Liberty <i>thought</i> about that event.	Yes
Secondary Source	For historians, secondary sources are works of synthesis, analysis, and interpretation based on primary sources as well as the work of other authors. Some examples include textbooks, history books, scholarly journal articles, biographies, and encyclopedias. Secondary sources are interpretive works created or written <i>after</i> the time period being studied and have the benefit of hindsight but lack the benefit of immediacy.	No
Similarity	Tells how something is alike or the same as something else.	Yes
Turning Point	A major event, idea, or historical development that brings about significant change. It can be local, regional, national, or global.	Yes