



HOW HISTORIANS QUALIFY CLAIMS

Teach words to show how certain a claim is.



THE IDEA

Historians don't always say something is 100% true.

They use words like "may", "possibly" or "likely" to show how certain a claim is.

These words help make their writing balanced and accurate.



IN THE CLASSROOM

- Teach useful qualifying words.
- Show examples from history texts.
- Use a simple sentence frame.
- Give time to practise.
- Use it in speaking and writing.

1



TEACH THE WORDS

Give useful qualifying words.

may

probably

might

likely

possibly

it seems

2



SHOW EXAMPLES

Use it in a history example.

The evidence suggests this event **probably** happened in the 1500s.



3



PRACTISE AND APPLY

Let students use it.

Give a simple statement and add a qualifier.

It may have been ...

It probably ...

It might ...

It seems ...



WHY IT WORKS

- Helps students make careful, balanced claims.
- Builds academic language.
- Useful in history and other subjects.
- Supports critical thinking.



EAL UPGRADE

Create a qualifier word bank with simple examples.



TRY IT TOMORROW

Give a historical claim. Ask students to add a qualifying word and explain their choice.



TEACHER LANGUAGE

"How certain is this claim?"
"Can you say this in a more balanced way?"
"What word shows uncertainty?"