

## **An Historical Event**

### **Version A**

Describe a period in history that you would like to know more about.

You should say:

what period it was

how you heard about this period

what you know about this period

and explain why you would like to know more about this period.

### **Version B**

Describe an historical event that you would like to know more about.

You should say:

what event it was

how you heard about this event

what you know about this event

and explain why you would like to know more about this event.

### **Notes**

- About 50% of people are reporting this as, "Describe an

historical **period** .." and 50% as, "Describe an historical **event** .." **The two are quite different.** Most likely both words are used in the Part 3 questions, which is the cause of this confusion.

- No-one has reported that the first line says, "in your country".
- Slightly different versions of this have been reported in the past. It is possible that this Part 2/3 is a repeat of a previously used topic.

### **Part 3**

#### **Learning About History**

- Do you think history (= knowing about history) is important?
- Can you suggest why some people are not interested in (knowing about) history?
- How do people learn about history?
- (Similar to above) How can people get information about history?
- Do you think websites about history are useful?
- Which historical periods do you think are the most important to know about (learn about)?
- How do children (or school-age people) learn about history?
- (Similar to above) Do schools in your country teach history?
- Do many high school students in your country choose to study history as one of their school subjects?
- How is history taught at school in your country?
- Do you think those school lessons are interesting for most students?
- Can you suggest how those lessons could be made more interesting?
- Do you think history textbooks are usually interesting?

- Which would you prefer, to learn history from a textbook or to learn it by watching documentary videos about history?
- (Similar to above) Do you think students would learn more from history textbooks or from watching documentary videos about history?
- Are there any other ways in which most people learn at least a little about history?
- What's the difference between learning about history in school and learning about it outside of school?
- Do you think books such as historical novels are a good way to learn about history?
- Would you say the history in books like that is accurate?
- Do you think watching a popular movie about an historical event is a good way to learn about history?
- Do you think popular movies ever distort (their depiction of) history?
- Do parents in your country usually tell their children about history?
- What do you think is the value of parents and grandparents telling their children about history? \*
- Do many people in your country study history at university?

### **Historical Buildings**

- Do you think there is any value (or, any need) to preserve historical buildings?
- What would you say is the difference between, "an historical building" and "an old building"?
- How are historical buildings preserved (maintained / protected)?
- Do you think it's better for the government to maintain historical

buildings, or for this to be done by private companies?

- Why is it quite expensive to maintain historical buildings? \*
- Who pays for the cost of such maintenance?
- Who do you think should pay for the cost of such maintenance?
- (Similar to above) What would you say is the best way to pay for the maintenance of historical buildings?
- Do you think the whole population of a country should pay for it (via the taxes they give to the government)?