Historical Thinking Skills

!. Chronological Reasoning:

- 1. Historical Causation: (How & Why Something Happens?)
 - a. Why did stuff happen? What was the impact?
- 2. Patterns of Continuity and Change over Time: (What is the Same & Different over time?)
 - a. What stayed the same, what changed, why did it change, and how much did it change? (What in history has not changed over time?)
- 3. Periodization: (What time Period/Era does it fit into?)
 - a. How and why historians organize and prioritize events of the past into discrete/distinct time periods.

II. Comparison and Contextualization

- 4. Comparison: (What are Similarities & Differences?)
 - a. The ability to identify differences and similarities within a society or between societies in terms of chronological, ideological, geographical, and demographic contexts.
- 5. Contextualization: (Why did it matter at that given time in history?)
 - a. Connecting events to their specific place and time in history.

III. Crafting Historical Arguments from Historical Evidence

- 6. Historical Argumentation: (What is your position given?)
 - a. Take a position on a historical question and support it with relevant specific evidence; address other positions on the same question.
- 7. Appropriate Use of Relevant Historical Evidence:

(What is your argument and evidence for a historical issue?)

a. The ability to analyze sources for point of view, tone, motivation, etc. and extract relevant information, to answer questions, keeping in mind the limitations of the source.

IV. Historical Interpretation and Synthesis

- 8. Interpretation: (What does it mean? What is it saying?)
 - a. Students will be able to understand and evaluate various models of historical interpretation of different events and sources.
- 9. Synthesis: (So What!?! Why Does It Matter?)

(What is the significance of the perspectives and historical information?)

a. The bringing together of various perspectives and information to formulate and understanding of an event or period in history. Very much like what happens in a DBQ.