**Examples of conceptually-related questions**

The following questions may help to probe specific concepts:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Context & chronology** | * When did this happen?
* Where did it happen?
* In what order did it happen?
* What was the broader historical context?
* What were the characteristic features, conditions and outlook of the period?
* In what ways is the broader context significant?
* In what ways did the conditions and perspectives of the time trigger, shape, determine or constrain events?
* Did one or more elements in a sequence of events or situation combine to make another action/outcome possible/probable?
* How are our interpretation and explanations of context affected and shaped by hindsight?
 |
| **Change and Continuity** | * What types and variation of change was taking place at the time? e.g. political, economic, social; cultural, religious, technological?
* Were there key events, turning points or individuals that triggered, precipitated or motivated change?
* What was the speed/ rate/ extent / impact of change?e.g. was it  rapid, gradual, erratic, violent, widespread or localised?  Did it affect certain groups / sectors of society more than others?
* What was the duration of change? e.g. short-lived or long-term?
* Did the change result in progress, regression, evolution or little real change? (continuity).
* How have our interpretations and explanations of continuity and change been influenced and informed by hindsight?
 |
| **Cause and consequence** | * What variety of factors/ reasons combined to bring about change at any given time?
* What were the significant causes, turning points, sequence of events or developments?
* What combination of causes and consequences enabled or determined particular outcomes?
* Were some events or developments or people more important than others?
* What was the relative significance or importance of different factors?
* What were the intended and unintended short, medium and long term outcomes/ consequences?
* Which aspects made the most difference to the outcomes?
* How are our interpretation and explanations of causes and consequences influenced and informed by hindsight?
* How did individuals interact with the context to shape events?
* Which individuals were significant?  What part did they play?
* How did individual hopes, intentions, beliefs, motives and decisions affect their actions?
* How were individuals shaped by events?
* How are our interpretations and explanations of individual actions influenced by hindsight?
 |
| **Role of individuals** | * How did individuals interact with the context to shape events?
* Which individuals were significant?  What part did they play?
* How did individual hopes, intentions, beliefs, motives and decisions affect their actions?
* How were individuals shaped by events?
* How are our interpretation and explanations of individual actions influenced by hindsight?
 |
| **Significance** | * How important / remarkable was the event, issue or person at the time and/or since?
* How many lives were affected at the time, in the interim or since?
* How significant was the change at the time and since?
* What is the nature of the collective memory?  How relevant is the event, issue or person to people and circumstances today?
* How deeply / profoundly did the event, issue or person affect the context at the time?
* What have been the consequences?  How durable have the consequences been and why?
* How are the events remembered within the collective memory of a group or groups?  How and why do events then still resonate today?
* Why are these events so closely connected to group experiences, beliefs or situations over time?
* How are judgements about significance related to the value systems of the period in which they were produced?
* How have judgements about significance changed over time?
 |