

Lesson 3: Can History Be Rewritten?

History is not just a list of dates. It is an investigation.

The Beginner's Investigation · Lesson 3 of 10

The Big Idea

History isn't only *what happened*. It's also *who got to tell the story afterward*.

Think Like a Detective

A detective doesn't just ask, "What happened?" A detective asks:

The Detective's Questions

Who was involved?

What did they want?

What did they gain?

Who was harmed?

What documents exist?

What evidence contradicts the official story?

Who had the power to tell the story afterward?

Losing the War, Winning the Story

After a major conflict, the people who lost power don't simply disappear. They can lose the war and still fight over what the war *meant* — through books, monuments, speeches, and schools.

That's how history can be "rewritten": not by changing what happened, but by changing what people remember and how they explain it.

Event → Memory → Story → Textbook → Belief

Try It

Choose any historical event you know. Answer the last detective question: *Who had the power to tell the story afterward?* Then ask: *Who didn't?*

Don't take our word for it. Investigate.