

Local History Assignment – Plymouth Post Office

This assignment will focus on four historical thinking skills – Periodization, Comparison, Contextualization, and Causation.

Step 1 – Read the Newspaper article: *Fate of mural in Plymouth post office raised.*

Step 2 - Analyze the murals in front of the high school auditorium. Taking photos of them with your phone may help you answer the questions.

Step 3 – Write brief answers to the following questions...

Step 4 – Be ready to discuss/justify your answers in class.

1 – (Periodization) Which time period of US History would the post office mural fall into?

2 - (Periodization) Which time period of US History would the H.S. murals fall into?

3 – (Comparison) Which murals more accurately depict daily life in the time period shown?
Why?

4– (Comparison) The post office mural is described in the news story as the “people’s art.”
Could the H.S. murals also be described that way?

5 - (Contextualization) Why was the post office mural created? Did it serve a purpose?

6 - (Contextualization) Why were the H.S. murals created? What national/world events were happening at the time?

7 - (Causation) What national and global events caused the difference in the way of life depicted in the two sets of murals?

8 – Which historical thinking skill not used above could be used to analyze the two sets of murals?