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Period 4 US history

**Read and Analyze** the document *[W.E.B DuBois Reflects on the Purpose of History](https://drive.google.com/file/d/16aIoothb6Pda8Hok31RUdI0GYk64G8BI/view?usp=sharing)*

*[(Links to an external site.)](https://drive.google.com/file/d/16aIoothb6Pda8Hok31RUdI0GYk64G8BI/view?usp=sharing)*

using the chart below (You can make a copy of this and paste it on a Google doc).

| Paragraph | What is the author saying? | How is the author saying it? |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Pointing out the topic and saying that our system of coming to be is couroupt | Argumentative writing- stating facts/ claim and informing |
| 2 | Information about what happened and specific people and sides and their argument and beliefs regarding the matter | questions/ Logos, names, and direct quotes within the passage/ informative |
| 3 | Makes a connection with the reading, using an example of student and the lack of knowledge and limited info spread about black contribution in US history | 3rd person, observation, analogy, example |
| 4 | Saying the things and implementations placed, and the lack of contribution and effort made at the time, and uniting us as a country, including everyone. | “We” “on top of that we passed reconstruction with a phase of regret and disgust “ |
| 5 | Reflecting on the previous passage telling us should we have to accept what they did and not question it just because it seemed good at the time | questioning, “which will allow us to use as a measuring rod and guid post for the future of nations” |
| 6 | Showing a counter use and saying that we should recognize our wrongs instead of creating false images and vanity. | * Inflating our national ego * False sense of accomplishment |
| 7 | The importance of the truth, concussion about the dichotomy between the beautiful and ugly | -contradiction  Should we not?  Contrasting language |

Respond to the following questions on your document:

* What does Du Bois believe is the purpose of learning history? Do you agree?
* How do biases and prejudice influence how we interpret the past?
* How does our understanding of the past influence our choices in the present?

Du Bois believes that the purpose of learning history is to recognize and examine its faults and to build on it and create a baseline for further improvement and that it had two main uses. To use as a measuring tool and more literal and accurate and then also to use as a science or art as the truth becomes blurred and people change the ways things have happened.

Biases and prejudice influence how we interpret the past because they affect the tone the history is written, explained, and then taught. And when taught in a certain light or view that will then become the general and believed view, and become true even if it originally wasn’t.

Since the past is often used as a guideline or a for most things that are currently happening in the world ( systems) understanding history can help us understand why people act and do how they act and what do. We can also understand who was negatively affected by these systems and help to change them. In some cases, it helps us see our own biases and tells us why we were raised to think these things and fix/change our mindsets.