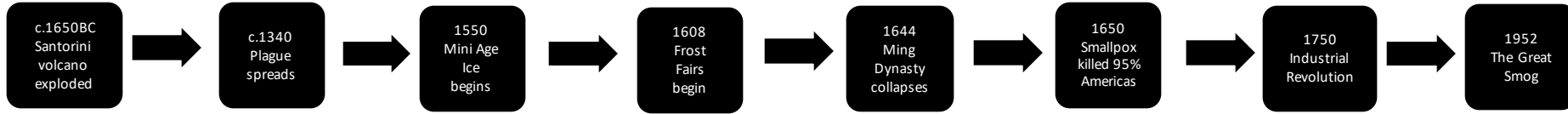


How far are the changes in History the result of human actions and decisions?



	Key Word	Definition
	Causation	The reason why something happened.
	Climate	Weather patterns over a long period of time.
	Demography	A study of population.
	Disease	An abnormal condition in the human body.
	Drought	A long period of little rainfall causing water shortages.
	Famine	Extreme shortages of food resulting in deaths.
	Geography	A study of the physical features of the earth.
	Ice Age	A period of global cooling between 1550 and 1700
	Industrial Revolution	The period between 1750 and 1900 when machinery and factories replaced farming.
	Plague	Spread by rat fleas. Causes buboes (swellings)
	Population	Number of people living in a country or area.
	Smallpox	A virus. Causes a severe rash.
	Volcano	A hill with a crater which allows lava to escape.

Most people can name the great leaders and major battles in the past, but few can name the biggest storms, the most significant floods, the worst-winters, the most severe droughts, or the ways that these influenced harvest failures, provoked political pressures or were catalysts for the spread of disease. Reintegrating human and natural history is not just a worthwhile exercise; it is fundamentally important if we are to understand the world around us properly.



	Knowledge Milestones	Extra Knowledge	Expert Knowledge
	Weather means the conditions of the air above the earth e.g. rainy, sunny, windy.	Climate refers to weather patterns over a long period of time.	Geographical features include volcanoes, droughts and famine.
	In c.1600 BCE the Santorini volcano exploded. It is believed that this led to the emergence of smallpox	There are multiple stories of floods in ancient texts. This could be linked to the story of Noah's Ark in the Bible.	Warm climates might have allowed the Roman Empire to spread & development of Baghdad.
	The Mini Ice Age lasted from c.1550-1700.	It was so cold that "Frost Fairs" were held on the River Thames.	However, a colder temperature is also linked to famines and increased accusations about witchcraft.
	Britain benefited from access to coal. This enabled the Industrial Revolution.	The Empire gave Britain access to goods like cotton and sugar which could be processed in factories.	The development of steamships also meant that goods could be transported and traded over great distances.
	Countries also benefit by their geography or are limited by it.	Europe benefited from a warm climate and long flat rivers which enabled trade.	Africa's rivers are not connected or flat. The climate is perfect for mosquitoes & disease.
	Disease can also be a factor in explaining events in history.	The Black Death killed an estimated 25-50 million people in the 1340s.	It is believed that smallpox contributed to the death of 95% of indigenous people.
	Demography is the study of populations.	England's population increased rapidly during the Industrial Revolution.	This was due to changes in farming and an increased birth rate.

If you want to find out more check out the following links or scan the QR codes on your phone or tablet.

READ

[All the fun of the Frost Fair: why did the Thames freeze? | Museum of London](#)

WATCH

[Face of a Pharaoh - Smallpox Through Time - 1050BC-1980 on Timelines.tv - YouTube](#)

LISTEN

[The Waterstones Podcast: Peter Frankopan on Apple Podcasts](#)