

1- is history fiction,
ch. 9, 2- global
history of modern
historiography, ch.
6, ...

[History](#)



Books Review Part Summary of is History Fiction?-Chapter 9 Chapter 9 of the book discusses literary experimentations in historical writing between 1970 and 1990 following cultural, economic, and political changes. Most importantly, the chapter contains an elaboration of the discussion of innovative writings that led to postmodernism and post-structuralism in history. Insights on postmodernism and post-structuralism theories have led to the development of contemporary historical writings including micro-history, history of sexuality, postcolonial histories, and gender history¹. It is imperative that the posts-structuralism has transformed historical writing to modern interpretations based on existing evidences of past events. Revolution in writing history have consequently changed the genealogy of traditional cultures and resulted into present study topics. It is vital that revolution in interpreting the discipline have led to doubts over the existence of factual history.

Summary of Global History of Modern Historiography-Chapter 6 (Pgs. 281-306)

Chapter 6 of the book entails a discussion of postmodernism and linguistic turn, development of contemporary historiography in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America history, subaltern studies, and post-colonialism. The authors of the book relate the aforementioned discussion topics to current historical challenges in the post-war period. The authors use concepts of post-colonialism and postmodernism in discussing the modernism in historical writing². Post colonialism led to a revolution in non-western countries systems including education, politics, and culture. Africa, for example, experienced the postmodernism era when they adopted western culture

after attainment of independence. Subaltern studies remained imperative in explaining historical effects of post-colonialism and war on both East and west countries. For instance, subaltern studies elucidated dominance of Indian historiography. The authors also compare historiography emergence periods in different continents and factors that influenced its revolution. For example, Sub-Saharan Africa historiography started towards the end of the colonial period after that of India had begun. Historiography in Africa faced various challenges including racism. It is essential that the language had a fundamental role in historical writing, and it influenced the postmodernism era.

Summary of John Edward Philips-Chapter 1

Chapter one of the book elaborates the meaning of history, how to write it, its relation to social sciences, and the differences between history and other disciplines. Moreover, the chapter develops potential factors that make history a real discipline and misconceptions about the fascinating subject. In explaining the definition and relation of history to other disciplines, the chapter focusses on African history. The book explains misconceptions that history is explicitly about society winners such as wars. Philips discusses that history entails an account of events recorded by winners, losers, and witnesses. It is imperative that historians have a significant role of creating and making coherent interpretation of the past based on present evidence³. History forms the central source of information for all disciplines including social sciences. Accounts of history make up theories and facts discussed in various disciplines such as science. It is imperative that historians conduct proper research to help enrich history as a source of information.

Summary of Postmodernism for Historians by Callum Brown

The book discusses postmodernism theory in relation to contemporary history research and applications. According to Brown, 2005 postmodernism have impacted positively on development of history as a subject and other disciplines such as Journalism. Historians should embrace postmodernism theory in research and teaching of history. Postmodern theory is imperative in modern history based on its seven main significant themes which include empiricist inheritance, sign, discourse, text, self, morality, and post-structuralism. The aforementioned themes explain development of postmodernism and how historians uses it in research and teaching unknowingly though they doubt its importance⁴. Despite adverse critics by scholars on relevance of postmodernism, the theory has vast influential applications in social research and teaching history as a discipline. Moreover, postmodernism have widened history by introducing new disciplines including popular culture, gay history, women history, and postcolonial history.

Part 2

Two Discussion Questions in relation to Subject

Question 1

Has postmodernism lead to the emergence of fiction in history?

Question 2

How important was linguistic diversity in development of modern history?

Need to clarify the questions

Question 1 seeks to establish if contemporary interpretation of ancient events has resulted into non-factual history and research. The question aims

at eliminating misconceptions about historical development. Question 2 would address relevance of languages in understanding modern history. Languages remained imperative in historical writing of events from diverse cultures.

Bibliography

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