

Year 9 FOSIL enquiry- Lions led by Donkeys?

Topic: British High Command during the First World War

Inquiry: Is the popular view of First World War general Sir Douglas Haig as an “incompetent buffoon” historically valid?



Black Adder Goes Forth 1989
Google images

If there is an enduring cliché of the First World War, it is that of the well-fed general and his staff firmly ensconced in a chateau far behind enemy lines while brave men are sent needlessly to their deaths in the muddy trenches of the front line.

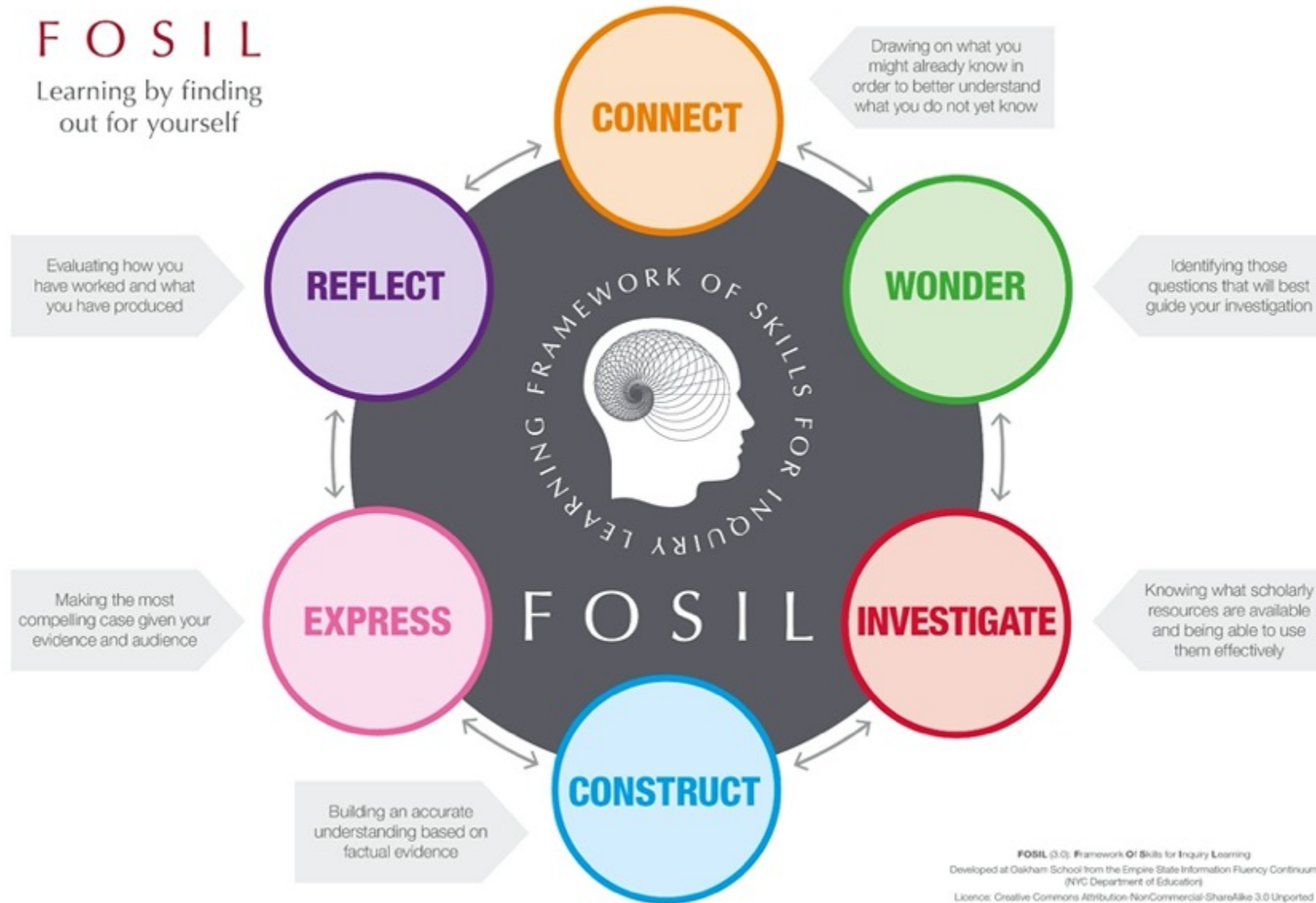
Is this popular view historically valid?
Was Haig a butcher, bungler or a competent commander?



World War 1 soldiers in a trench Google images

F O S I L

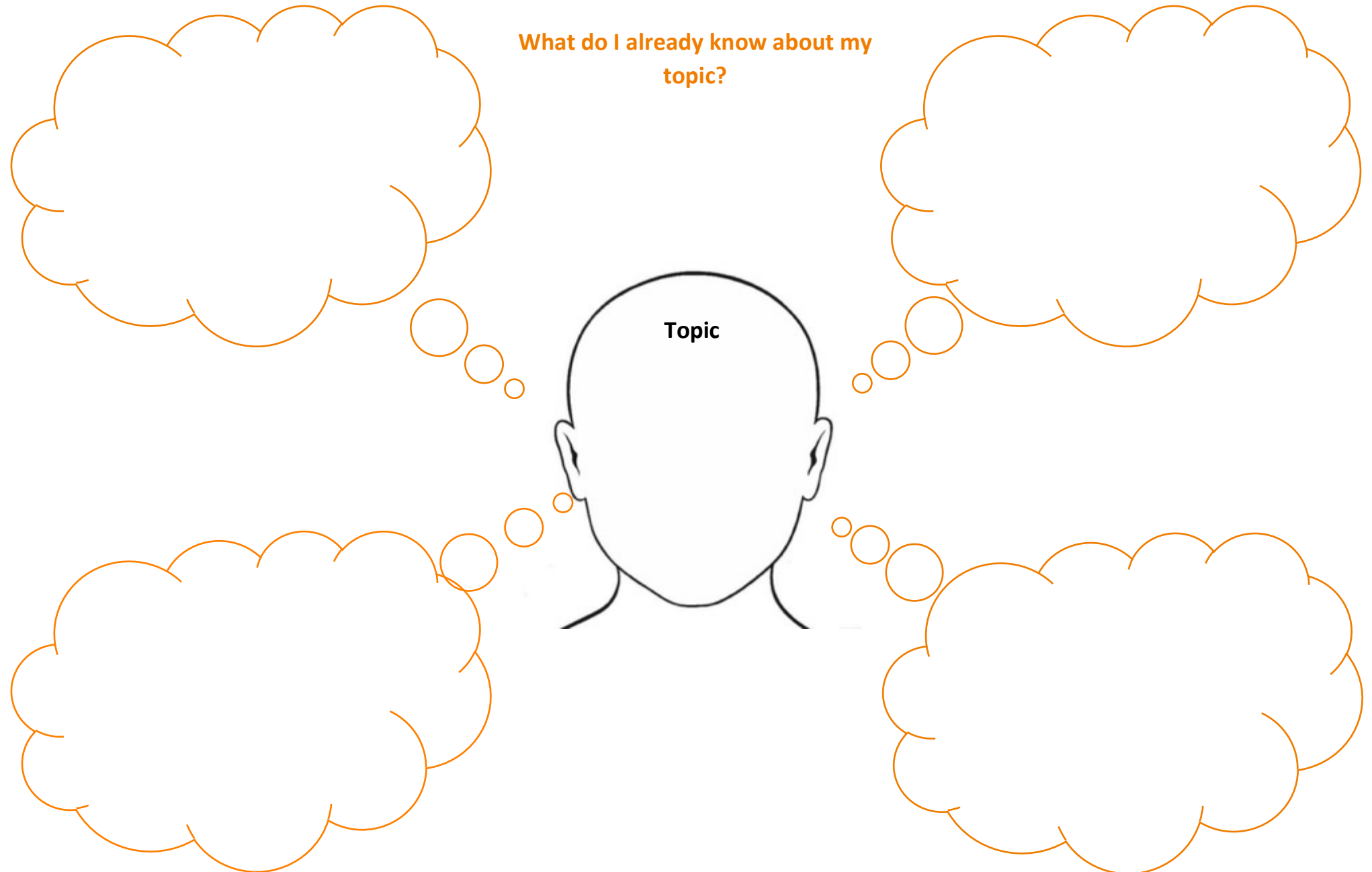
Learning by finding
out for yourself



FOSIL (3.0): Framework Of Skills for Inquiry Learning
Developed at Oakham School from the Empire State Information Fluency Continuum
(NYC Department of Education)
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What do I already know about my topic?

Topic



FOSIL: Learning by finding out for yourself.



Identifying questions to guide my investigation



I already know		I wonder	
<p><u>"Bungling butcher"</u></p> <p>(i.e. did Haig make so many mistakes in making and executing the plan that he is to blame for all of the casualties?)</p>	<p><u>Competent Commander</u></p> <p>(i.e. Haig's plan was the only workable plan given the available technology of the time. Any problems that occurred were outside of his control).</p>	<p><u>"Bungling butcher"</u></p> <p>(i.e. did Haig make so many mistakes in making and executing the plan that he is to blame for all of the casualties?)</p>	<p><u>Competent Commander</u></p> <p>(i.e. Haig's plan was the only workable plan given the available technology of the time. Any problems that occurred were outside of his control).</p>

Sir Douglas Haig

Investigate the following sources of information:



GCSE Modern History Review Hindsight **Vol 26 Number 3 April 2016**

Article: 'The first day of the Battle of the Somme' by Mark Rathbone (My School Portal – School Information -Princethorpe-Library)

GCSE Modern History Review Hindsight **Vol 22 Number 2 Jan 2012**

Article: 'Haig vs Lloyd George' by Mark Rathbone (My School Portal – School Information -Princethorpe-Library)

GCSE Modern History Review Hindsight **Vol 17 Number 2 Jan 2007**

Article: 'Lions led by donkeys?' by David McGill (My School Portal – School Information -Princethorpe-Library)

www.johndclare.net/wwi1.htm

<https://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/usbiography/h/douglashaig.html> (Undiscovered Scotland.co.uk)

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/field-marshal-sir-douglas-haig> (Imperial War Museum)

<https://school.eb.co.uk/levels/intermediate/article/Douglas-Haig-Earl-Haig/311560> (Britannica School via (My School Portal – School Information -Princethorpe-Library)

<https://www.bl.uk/world-war-one> (British Library)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vH3-Gt7mgYM>

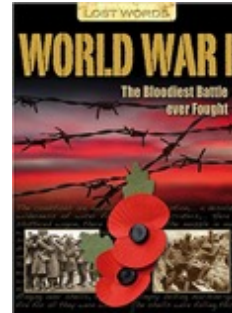
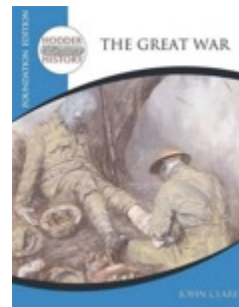
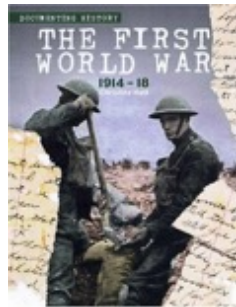
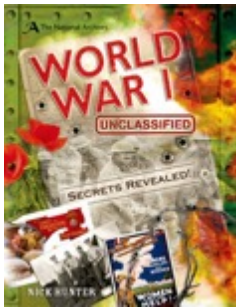
<https://www.bbc.com/timelines/ztnngxsg>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/why-was-the-first-day-of-the-somme-such-a-disaster/zn3hwtv>

Some books from the Library:

FOSIL: Learning by finding out for yourself.





Key Battles of World War 1 – David Taylor

The First World War – R.G. Grant

The First World War 1914 – 18 – Christine Hatt

World War 1 Lost Words: The Bloodiest Battle Ever Fought – Nicholas Saunders

The War in the Trenches – Ole Steen Hansen

The Great War – Neil Demarco

Great Battles of the World War I – Anthony Livesey

World War 1 Unclassified – Nick Hunter

FOSIL: Learning by finding out for yourself.



Source (Title and Date):

What information have I found?

You can either copy out the relevant information word for word (quote it), making sure you use quotation marks ("..."), or write it in your own words (paraphrase).

How does this information help me to answer the question?

Explain the relevance of the information you have found.

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Main points from my research (in my own words)

Question: Is the popular view of First World War general Douglas Haig as an incompetent buffoon historically valid?

Main point: “Bungling Butcher” (i.e. did Haig make so many mistakes in making and executing the plan that he is to blame for all of the casualties?)

Main point: Competent Commander (i.e. Haig’s plan was the only workable plan given the available technology of the time. Any problems that occurred were outside of his control).

Source of evidence (title and type of source):

Source of evidence (title and type of source):

Main points from my research (in my own words)

Question: Is the popular view of First World War general Douglas Haig as an incompetent buffoon historically valid?

Main point: "Bungling Butcher" (i.e. did Haig make so many mistakes in making and executing the plan that he is to blame for all of the casualties?)

Main point: Competent Commander (i.e. Haig's plan was the only workable plan given the available technology of the time. Any problems that occurred were outside of his control).

Source of evidence (title and type of source):

Source of evidence (title and type of source):

Question:		
Some people think...	UNDISPUTED FACTS (with sources)	But other people think...
Facts added from this perspective (with sources)		Facts added from this perspective (with sources)

Bibliography

<input type="checkbox"/> Book	Author:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Website	Date Published:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magazine	Page no. / URL:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Publisher / Website:	
	Title / Webpage:	

<input type="checkbox"/> Book	Author:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Website	Date Published:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magazine	Page no. / URL:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Publisher / Website:	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Book	Author:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Website	Date Published:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magazine	Page no. / URL:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Publisher / Website:	
	Title / Webpage:	

How am I doing?

Statement	What I think (Tick if you agree)	What my teacher thinks (Leave blank for your teacher)
I answered my research question.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My main ideas are clearly presented.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I provided evidence for my main ideas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My final piece of work is written in my own words.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My final piece of work is neat, clear and well organised.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I checked my grammar and spelling.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I used a wide range of sources of evidence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I used both print and electronic sources of evidence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I cited the sources in my bibliography	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



How did I do?



Strengths

What I did well

Why was it good?

1.	
2.	
3.	



Goals

What could have been better?

How can I improve it next time?

1.	
2.	
3.	