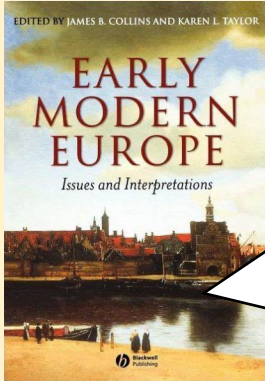


Assessment p.1: Did the changes during the years 1500 to 1900 really cause people to 'redefine themselves'?

Your assessment task is to write a response to this **historical interpretation**, saying how far you agree with the historian's arguments.

TASK: First, read the interpretation, and answer the questions below to help you make sense of what the historian is arguing.



'Early modern Europeans had to **redefine themselves** in every way. Explorers proved the existence of vast new continents, previously unknown... Scientists would soon change people's view of the heavens, and of Earth's place in the universe, as well as the laws of motion and the understanding of the human body itself. Religious reformers destroyed the unity of the European Christian community. **Virtually no important belief of the European world survived intact.**'

James Collins, *Early Modern Europe: Issues and Interpretations*, 2008.

1: What does the historian James Collins say about the impact of explorers and scientists?

2: What does Collins say about the impact of religious reformers? What do you think he means by '...destroyed the unity of the European Christian community'?

3: If you had to sum up Collins' arguments in one sentence of your own, how would you do it?

TASK: Now, it's time to think about how far you agree with James Collins' argument. Complete the table below, thinking back to what you have learnt in the unit so far.

Reasons to <u>agree</u> with Collins:	Reasons to <u>disagree</u> with Collins:

Think about:

- ❖ What **religious** changes took place in the period 1500-1900? Did anything stay the same?
- ❖ What were some of the new **discoveries and ideas** that were known about or popular by 1900?
- ❖ Had **power and government** changed by 1900?
- ❖ How had **ordinary people's lives** changed? Did anything stay the same?

TASK: Now it's time to write your response to the historian, in the form of a letter. Here are some of the things you could include:

- Address your letter to the historian, and remind him of what he argued. Try to outline his argument in your own words.
- Give some reasons why it is possible to **agree** with his arguments, using evidence and examples.
- Give some reasons why it is possible to **disagree** with his arguments, using evidence and examples.
- Decide whether, all things considered, you agree or disagree with Collins' overall arguments.

Assessment p.3: Did the changes during the years 1500 to 1900 really cause people to 'redefine themselves'?

Assessment p.4: Did the changes during the years 1500 to 1900 really cause people to 'redefine themselves'?

Teacher feedback: