Year 6 History Assessment: Our Local Community Through Time

Learning objective: To analyse and evaluate how local history has shaped our community, using primary and secondary sources to investigate change over time.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Ensure you use the provided word bank to support your explanations where relevant.

Ellie the elephant has been visiting the local archives. She found a map from 1850 showing a small village with only a flour mill and a blacksmith. Beside it, she found a photograph from 1950 showing a large railway station and rows of terraced houses. Finally, she looked at a satellite image from today, which shows a bustling town centre with a library, a park, and many modern shops.

Word bank: Chronology · Primary source · Secondary source · Industrialisation · Heritage · Evidence · Architecture · Migration

1. Identify one primary source and one secondary source Ellie might have used to research the history of her town. Explain why each is categorised that way. (2 marks)

2. Look at the changes in the town between 1850 and 1950. Suggest one reason why a town might grow so quickly during the period of industrialisation. (2 marks)

3. What does the change in architecture from a blacksmith’s forge to a modern library tell us about the changing needs of the local people? (3 marks)

4. Explain how the arrival of a railway station in 1950 would have impacted the local economy and the daily lives of the people living there. (4 marks)

5. If you were planning a new local museum, which three items from the last 100 years would you choose to display to represent your community's heritage? Justify your choices. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: Write a report (approx. 150 words) describing how your local area has changed over the last century. Consider transport, housing, and the types of jobs people do. Why is it important for historians to preserve these local stories? (10 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Then and Now' comparison of a specific building in your local area, labelling the historical features that have remained the same and the modern features that have been added.

Extension challenge: Total: /25