History Timelines, Websites and Databases

These websites are starting points to help you research an area of history for your extended essay. The sites are to be used in tandem with Gale Virtual Reference Library, JSTOR, Opposing Viewpoints in Context, Science in Context, GREENR, and Literary Criticism Online where you should search those collections for ebooks and journal articles related to your area of interest.

**History Subject Guide from the University of Washington Libraries**  
http://guides.lib.washington.edu/history

This guide provides links to the most useful databases and resources for researching history, including History by Region, History by Topic, and Quick Guides (quick information on specific historical topics). Some links go to materials only available online to University of Washington library patrons, but most to the links go to websites and/or digital collections available to the general public.

**Best of History Websites**  
http://www.besthistorysites.net/

Best of History Web Sites is an award-winning portal that contains annotated links to over 1200 history web sites as well as links to hundreds of quality K-12 history lesson plans, history teacher guides, history activities, history games, history quizzes, and more.  
**Use links on left side of homepage to access specific areas of interest.**

**Learning How to Do Historical Research**  
http://www.williamcronon.net/researching/questions.htm

An excellent site to learn how to develop questions for historical research.  
**Be aware that your extended essay question must be arguable.**

Developing good research questions is an essential first step of every research project, because good research questions focus your work and provide direction for your next steps. The purpose of this page is to help you learn how to create research questions from general topics, and to give you useful tips for refining your questions during the research process.

**History Timelines**  
http://www.history-timelines.org.uk/

The History Timelines website provides a record of events in the order of their occurrence. The many sections on this website detail the sequence of related historical events and are arranged in chronological order. 'History & Timelines' localizes historical events in time as part of the history of people, places and events including a separate section dedicated to the Timelines of the United States of America.

**American History Timeline 1780 – 2013**  
http://www.animatedatlas.com/timeline.html

Covers a variety of topics—society, culture, politics, events—in chronological order (not easy to read)
REGIONAL RESOURCES

History Makers Biographical Database
http://www.sos.wa.gov/legacyproject/HistoryMakers.aspx
Biographies of Washington State elected officials and activists

Washington State Library Historical Newspaper Collection
http://www.sos.wa.gov/history/newspapers.aspx
Digital versions of regional newspapers from all over the state, searchable by date, topic, and keyword, some dating from as early as the 1850s.

Classics in Washington History
http://www.sos.wa.gov/history/publications.aspx
This digital collection of full-text books brings together rare, out of print titles for easy access. Visit Washington's early years through the lives of the men and women who lived and worked in Washington Territory and State.