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**Why Study History?**

Below are statements from students about reasons for studying history. Read the statements below and rank which student you agree with most (A) to which you agree with the least (E).

*Steven*: “We study history to find out the truth. Sometimes we might not like what we learn.”

*Miranda*: “I think we study history to understand mistakes people made in the past so we can

avoid them in the future.”

*Clarissa*: “I don’t agree with either of you. I think we should study history to increase our

patriotism. Learning about the evils of kings and tyrants makes us more appreciative of our

country and its leaders.”

*Charlie*: “I think that it is impossible to understand anything that’s going on in the news today,

unless we understand its beginnings. Studying history helps us understand the present.”

*Julia*: “I think there is a more practical reason: just like all the other subjects that we study in

school, history is another thinking skill just called by a different name. Having strong

reasoning skills will help us be successful at school and work.”

Which student’s opinion do you agree with most (A) and least (E)? Explain your thinking.

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