

Follow up an enquiry

The word 'enquiry' means investigation, so you will need to think like a detective and see the source as **evidence** which you can use to find things out about the past. To **follow up an enquiry** you need to identify a specific detail in the source that relates to the overall enquiry, which you could follow up, in order to find out more.

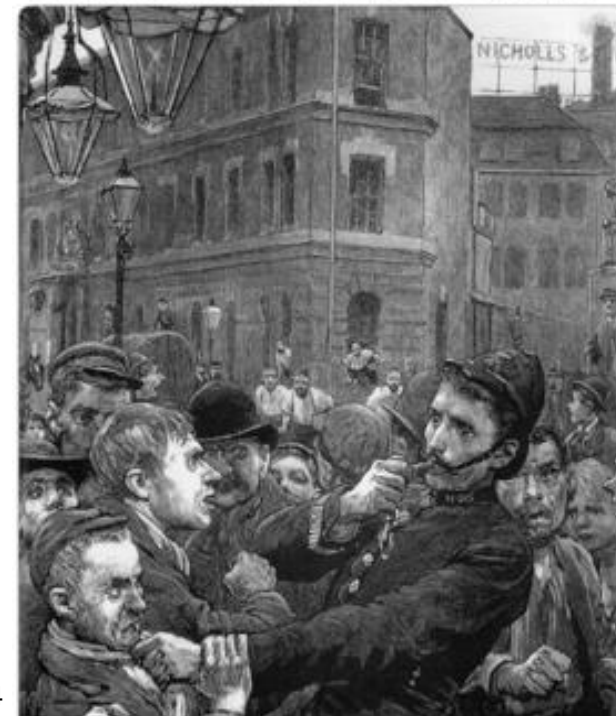


In this enquiry the historian is trying to **find out more** about **how effective the police were** in Whitechapel in 1888.

4 steps to follow up an enquiry:

1. **Identify a detail** in the source that could prompt / form the base of a wider follow up enquiry – the detail must relate to the overall enquiry.
2. **Think about a question** you would ask of the source – your question needs to relate to the overall enquiry and not just to check the accuracy of the detail identified in part 1.
3. **Identify a type of source** from the period that could provide you with useful information to help answer your question.
4. **State how this source might help** answer your question.

A: An artist's impression of a scene in the Whitechapel district of London in 1888. It was printed in the *Penny Illustrated Paper*, a cheap weekly newspaper. The police constable is from H Division. The building behind him is a police station.



Follow up an enquiry

How could you **follow up** Source A **to find out more** about the effectiveness of the police in Whitechapel in 1888?

This question is worth only 4 marks; however, it is the last question on the historic environment, and it is designed to be challenging!

Question	Possible answer
Detail in Source that I would follow up:	The police constable is heavily outnumbered.
Question I would ask:	How many police were patrolling Whitechapel at the time?
What type of source I could use:	H Division police records showing the number of police in the force and details of their beats at the time.
How this might help my question:	It would show whether there were enough police available to patrol the area effectively at the time.

There is not one single correct answer to this question – examiners will reward a variety of appropriate responses.

