

## Reading Log #1 - HIST1120

The first chapter of Jack Brink's "Imagining the Head Smashed in" he goes into great depth about the buffalo jump. We see him talk about this historical piece through the views of an archeologist. He bounces back and forth between an archeologist's perspective, the perspective of the elders of the Great Plains, and the perspective of European historians. He discusses the aboriginal's peoples extraordinary way of life, and their strategic hunting skills. We see Brink attempting to shed light on this overlooked part of Canadian History.

Archelogy is a very useful tool in history, it helps us piece together the stories of the past. Unfortunately there is not much written history of aboriginal people as many historians did not share the same views or understand the aboriginal's peoples way of life. There is also a lack of Aboriginal historians from that time. In the reading we see many primary sources which help enforce the history of the Great Plains. Brink has been using archelogy as a tool to bring more awareness to people about the rich history. The archology site for the Head Smashed In Buffalo Jump is in a tourist area to help bring more people to educate them. Aboriginal peoples history has not always been portrayed as accurate. Brink is attempting to piece together this piece of history to educate, and to log this rich past to have for the future.

For thousands of years Aboriginal people hunted the mighty bison. They fine-tuned their hunting skills by observing and using the land to their advantage to plan strategic attacks. The Aboriginal people of the Great Plains mastered their hunting skills over time, becoming one of the most successful known ways aboriginal people obtained food, hide, and bone. Brink sheds a light on how complex the hunt was. The readings show us how the hunts impacted the first nations and those around them. The European's who Brink quotes witness the events and deem them through their perspective. We are informed what the Buffalo Jumps were and how they contribute to the history of the aboriginal people. In this reading we are informed through Brinks evidence gathered from elders, archelogy and primary sources how the Aboriginal people of the Great Plains sustained their way of life through Buffalo Jumps.

Buffalo jumps are not common knowledge. The author is explaining his work and logging this event and findings through what he has discovered. He is trying to educate people on an over looked part of the past. Aboriginal people are a very important part of Canadian history and they lack written history. There are not many known written historical logs by aboriginal people. There are primary sources such as cave drawings, stone tools and fossils. There are also many forms of oral history. Brink is working backwards, such as starting a maze from the end rather than the start ,and working backwards to get to the beginning.

Brink is trying to make a ripple in Canadian History by backing up his arguments with primary sources to piece together a missing piece of history. He is linking archeologic findings with stories to form a concise history of the Head Smashes in Buffalo jump. He is attempting to promote the aboriginal's people old ways of life and their successful , strategic creative thinking. His argu