Educational institutions are said to be in crisis, to be outmoded, failing, unsustainable. There are plenty of experts and commentators who come down on the side of the obsolescence of the school, seeing it as an enlightenment- or industrial-age antique, about to go the way of the writing quill and steam engine. Using textual media as its central reference point, this chapter works to reverse this view. It takes its cue from a conclusion of one historical expert, namely, that the history of education is the history of writing. This chapter looks at the instructional pragmatics underlying this claim by presenting an example of reading. Education reflects societal values. And so we can think of education as a kind of leading or directing in more ways than one. And we can see similar notions in other words to do with education, such as the Germanic derived word learn. It comes from the Proto-Indo-European root *leis- meaning "track or furrow", so the underlying sense here is "to gain experience by following a track". Closely related is the word lore, something that is learned. And similarly the word curriculum, closely related to the word course, literally means "gain running", coming from the Proto-Indo-European root *kers- meaning "a running". In a specific term, history of education as an academic discipline is also doing more than expected to ensure the sustainability and continued relevance of history in education. This was also an achievement recorded by a handful of practitioners who gathered at the International Standing Conference of the History of Education (ISCHE) in Switzerland in the year 2000. Student, even government recognizes the relevance of history as a school subject, but no attention is accorded its promotion as an important school subject. However, a story that the writer has invented is a fiction. University subject profile: history. The study of the past: politics, economics, culture, religion and society and gender issues. A history degree will help you gain greater cultural awareness and understand how societies and values have evolved. Photograph: StatueMan / Alamy Stock Photo. A history degree will help you gain greater cultural awareness and understand how societies and values have evolved. Photograph: StatueMan / Alamy Stock Photo. History of Education will help you to understand how the past events shaped the present education systems, theories and related phenomenon in the area of teacher education in particular and education in general. Secondly, it will enable you to appreciate the importance of education to mankind since time immemorial across the generations. By so doing, you are will be able to critically examine the fundamental part which education plays in the transformation of society. We have gone through the Dick and Jane books where the vocabulary is extremely contro. Meanwhile, as you study the history of education, you learn about John Dewey and his Progressive philosophy. He was a Socialist; and his goal broadly was to make a more collectivist, cooperative society.