Questions related to Thucydides on Historical Investigation

Indicate whether each statement is true or false based on the reasoned judgments of Thucydides.

1. People accept stories about the past too easily.

2. The Peloponnesian War was second in importance to the Persian Wars.

3. It is acceptable at times for a historian to put words in the mouths of speakers as long as they fit the circumstances.

4. Even reports from eyewitnesses must be checked for accuracy.

5. In no way does history repeat itself.

Short Essay Questions.

6. Thucydides wrote that poets "exaggerate the importance of their themes" and chroniclers are "less interested in telling the truth than in catching the attention of their public." Identify two groups in our society today that do each of those things.

7. According to Thucydides, how difficult is historical investigation? Quote or paraphrase the text twice in support of your position.