1. Some historians argue that modern science has been invented around 1800. Why is this a controversial claim? What are the arguments for and against this view?

2. In recent times several historians of science, technology and medicine have called for the need of new big pictures of the history of science. What is the problem with the ‘old’ big pictures and how have historians tried to address the question? Discuss citing concrete examples.

3. What new themes and approaches in history of science have been developed as its coverage has extended beyond Western Europe to other parts of the world?

4. In history of science today embodied knowledge has become a major theme over all time periods. Physical models, instruments, materials, and techniques, as well as boundary objects, mediators, and materialized creoles, are widely discussed. An example could be Pamela Smith’s *Body of the Artisan*. Evaluate the significance of this genre of work, using specific examples.

5. A topic of considerable recent interest in history of science is the significance of more widely distributed networks of knowledge surrounding major institutional developments in science, such as the Royal Society or the French Academy. Deborah Harkness’s book on London is an example. Discuss the significance of this work, using specific examples.

6. In recent years ‘popular science’ has attracted considerable attention by historians. At the same time the term ‘popular science’ has become more problematic. In your essay reconstruct the current debates around the topic and provide examples from different periods about how the attention to popular science has affected the historiography of science, technology and medicine.