Need for Cognition Scale

For each of the statements below, please indicate whether or not the statement is characteristic of you or of what you believe. For example, if the statement is extremely uncharacteristic of you or of what you believe about yourself (not at all like you), please place a "1" on the line to the left of the statement. If the statement is extremely characteristic of you or of what you believe about yourself (very much like you) please place a "5" on the line to the left of the statement. You should use the following scale as you rate each of the statements below.

1	2	3	4	5
Extremely uncharacteristic of me	somewhat uncharacteristic of me	uncertain	somewhat characteristic of me	extremely characteristic of me

1. _____	I prefer complex to simple problems.
2. _____	I like to have the responsibility of handling a situation that requires a lot of thinking.
3. _____	Thinking is not my idea of fun.**
4. _____	I would rather do something that requires little thought than something that is sure to challenge my thinking abilities.**
5. _____	I try to anticipate and avoid situations where there is a likely chance I will have to think in depth about something.**
6. _____	I find satisfaction in deliberating hard and for long hours.
7. _____	I only think as hard as I have to.**
8. _____	I prefer to think about small daily projects to long term ones.**
9. _____	I like tasks that require little thought once I've learned them.**
10. _____	The idea of relying on thought to make my way to the top appeals to me.
11. _____	I really enjoy a task that involves coming up with new solutions to problems.
12. _____	Learning new ways to think doesn't excite me very much.**
13. _____	I prefer my life to be filled with puzzles I must solve.
14. _____	The notion of thinking abstractly is appealing to me.
15. _____	I would prefer a task that is intellectual, difficult, and important to one that is somewhat important but does not require much thought.
16. _____	I feel relief rather than satisfaction after completing a task that requires a lot of mental effort.**
17. _____	It's enough for me that something gets the job done; I don't care how or why it works.**
18. _____	I usually end up deliberating about issues even when they do not affect me personally.

Understanding Mathematics Scale

Make a check mark (x) on the appropriate blank to indicate your response to each item below.

1. I am superior_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ inferior
                          Extremely Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

at moving from a verbal description of a problem to a precise mathematical formulation.

2. I comprehend_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ do not comprehend
                          Extremely   Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

the progression of thought in the development of mathematics.

3. I am capable_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ incapable
                      Extremely Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

of thinking about mathematics issues from multiple points of view.

4. I am capable_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ incapable
                      Extremely Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

of filling in the gaps in subtle descriptions of mathematics issues.

5. I am able_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ unable
                  Extremely Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

to do independent thinking to solve mathematics problems.

6. I am capable_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ incapable
                      Extremely Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

of thinking creatively to solve mathematics problems.

7. I comprehend_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ do not comprehend
                      Extremely Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

the purpose of mathematics.

8. I am good_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ bad
                  Extremely Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

at linking mathematics topics together.

9. I am sure_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ unsure
                Extremely Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

that I can handle mathematics concepts I have never seen before.

10. I am capable_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____:_____ incapable
                      Extremely Quite   Slightly   Neutral   Slightly   Quite   Extremely

of explaining mathematics concepts in writing.

Answer the following two questions if you have worked on a historical project in this course.

In your opinion, what are the benefits of learning Mathematics from historical sources?

In your opinion, what are the drawbacks of learning Mathematics from historical sources?