



READING LIKE A HISTORIAN

Analyzing Primary Sources

DESCRIPTION

Make a quick sketch of the primary source:

SOURCING

Name of primary source: _____

Who created it? _____

What materials were used to make the primary source? How was it made?

PRIMARY SOURCE TYPE
_____ historical object
_____ artwork
_____ document

CONTEXTUALIZE

Where and when was it created? _____

Summarize any background information about what events were going on when the primary source was made:

ANALYSIS

Evaluate the object, artwork or document. What stands out to you in terms of style, design, symbols, words, technique, etc. How do you think this primary source would compare to similar objects, artworks, or documents from the same time period?

Consider the purpose. Who is the audience for this primary source? What was its purpose for that audience?

Assess the significance. How does the primary source help us better understand the history of the time? Why should we care about this object, artwork, or document? Can you name an item that serves a similar purpose today?

REFLECTION

How does this primary source connect to the history we are studying, other history you have studied before, or to today?

Come up with a question that could potentially be used to begin a research project:
