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?
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

CONTEXTUALIZE

Where and when was it created?  __________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

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

PRIMARY SOURCE TYPE

_____historical object

_____artwork

_____document
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:

_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________