

Analyzing Primary/Historical Sources & Evidence

Name(s): _____ Pd: _____ Date: _____

Primary sources, both textual and visual, provide historians with valuable information about the past and allow them to make arguments about historical events & processes. However, no primary source is without complication, and therefore historians must analyze these sources using a set of specific skills which you will develop in due time.

	Source #	Source #	Source #
Period/Theme/Medium			
What is the historical context shaping the issue in this subject/object?			
What is the author's point of view? How does the author's background (culture, political views, religion, social status, gender, etc) likely affect the way the author views the issue and the context addressed in the subject/or question?			
What is the relationship between the author and the event? How might this relationship influence the author's point of view? (POV) Does this relationship make the source more or less credible?			
Who was the intended audience? How did their background affect the author's approach to the issue?			
What did the author hope the audience would think, feel, or do in response to the document/subject?			
What is the historical context shaping the issue in question?			