

## Analyzing Written Documents

Source	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) When was the document created?</li><li>2) Who created the document?</li><li>3) What kind of document is it?</li><li>4) For what audience was the document created?</li><li>5) Based on your answers to the above, why do you think the author created the document? Who did they want to convince of what?</li></ol>
Observe	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Summarize the content of the document in one sentence.</li><li>2) What parts of the text support/verify that summary?</li><li>3) What do we learn about life in this time from this document?</li></ol>
Contextualize	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Use prior knowledge to put this document into the bigger picture. What else do you know about this era from the course readings, lectures, and other assigned primary sources?</li><li>2) How does that information help you understand more about the document, why it was created, and its significance to our understanding of this time and place?</li></ol>
Corroborate (by formulating questions)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) What questions do you have that would help you understand this document further?</li><li>2) What evidence (primary or secondary) would help you answer your questions? Where would you go next?</li></ol>

Adapted by Dr. Amanda Laury Kleintop from SOCC by Cate Denial and Bringing History Home, 2001-2011. [bringinghistoryhome.org](http://bringinghistoryhome.org)