

Primary Source Analysis

Key Question: What is the historical situation or context shaping the issue in question?

Key Questions: 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 situation or context addressed in the question?

Key Questions: Who was the intended audience? How did their background affect the author's approach to the issue?

Key Question: What did the author hope the audience would think, feel, or do in response to the document?

Key Questions: What is the format? Will this require using different types of reading, such as metaphorical? [A Metaphor is a figure of speech that makes an implicit, implied, or hidden comparison between two things that are unrelated, but which share some common characteristics. In other words, a resemblance of two contradictory or different objects is made based on a single or some common characteristics].

Secondary Source Analysis

Key Questions: Does the excerpt contain a thesis or claim? If so, what is the claim?

Key Questions: What analysis does the author offer in terms of causes and effects? What themes does the author focus on to explain the event?

Key Question: What historical reasoning process (i.e. causation, continuity and change, or comparison) does the author use in his or her interpretation?

Key Question: What kinds of evidence does the author provide to support the analysis?