



Primary Source Analysis and Guiding Questions

Use the questions below to guide your analysis of the primary source.

MEETING AND GREETING THE PRIMARY SOURCE

Type (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Email | <input type="checkbox"/> Press Release |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chart | <input type="checkbox"/> Patent | <input type="checkbox"/> Presidential Document |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speech | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertisement | <input type="checkbox"/> Congressional Document |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Report | <input type="checkbox"/> Telegram | <input type="checkbox"/> Identification Document |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum | <input type="checkbox"/> Court Document |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | | |

Write 2-3 sentences describing the document. Pretend the person you are explaining it to cannot see the document. (Think about characteristics like handwritten vs. typed, one or more than one author, stamps, markings, or anything unique about the document).

BASIC SOURCE PARTS

Complete the right side of the table for the primary source.

Who was the author / creator?	
Who was the reader / receiver?	
When was it from?	
Where was it from?	

MAKING SENSE OF THE PRIMARY SOURCE

Write 1-2 sentences describing what this primary source is about.

Who was the intended audience of this primary source?

USE AS HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

What was happening during this time? Does the primary source mention and specific people or events of the period?

What other primary or secondary sources could be used to help you better understand this event or topic?

If someone made this primary source today, what would be different and the same? Why?