

Historical Reading Skills	Questions	Students should be able to . . .	Prompts
<p><b>Sourcing</b>  (Before reading document)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the author's point of view?</li> <li>• Why was it written?</li> <li>• When was it written?</li> <li>• Is this source believable? Why? Why not?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Identify author's position on historical event</b></li> <li>• <b>Identify and evaluate author's purpose in producing document</b></li> <li>• <b>Predict what author will say BEFORE reading document</b></li> <li>• <b>Evaluate source's believability/ trustworthiness by considering genre, audience, and author's purpose.</b></li> </ul>	<p>This author probably believes...</p> <p>I think the audience is...</p> <p>Based on the sourcing information, I <b>predict this author will...</b></p> <p>I do/don't trust this document because...</p>
<p><b>Contextualization</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What else was going on at the time this was written?</li> <li>• What was it like to be alive at this time?</li> <li>• What things were different back then? What things were the same?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Use context/background information to draw more meaning from document</b></li> <li>• <b>Infer historical context from document(s)</b></li> <li>• <b>Recognize that document reflects one moment in changing past</b></li> <li>• <b>Understand that words must be understood in a larger context</b></li> </ul>	<p>I already know that ____ is happening at this time...</p> <p>From this document I would guess that people at this time were feeling...</p> <p>This document might not give me the whole picture because ...</p>
<p><b>Close Reading</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What claims does the author make?</li> <li>• What evidence does the author use to support those claims?</li> <li>• How is this document make me feel?</li> <li>• What words or phrases does the author use to convince me that he/she is right?</li> <li>• What information does the author <i>leave out</i>?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Identify author's claims about event</b></li> <li>• <b>Evaluate evidence/reasoning author uses to support claims</b></li> <li>• <b>Evaluate author's word choice; understand that language is used deliberately</b></li> </ul>	<p>I think the author chose these words because they make me feel...</p> <p>The author is trying to convince me... (by using/saying...)</p>
<p><b>Corroboration</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do other pieces of evidence say?</li> <li>• Am I finding different versions of the story? Why or why not?</li> <li>• What pieces of evidence are most believable?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Establish what is true by comparing documents to each other</b></li> <li>• <b>Recognize disparities between two accounts</b></li> </ul>	<p>This author agrees/ disagrees with...</p> <p>This document was written earlier/later than the other, so...</p>