

"HAPP-Y" WORKSHEET

DOCUMENT # _____

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

AUDIENCE

PURPOSE

POINT OF VIEW

WHEN IN DOUBT, CONSULT THE REVERSE SIDE... AND BE SURE TO FINISH WITH
YOUR DOCUMENT KEY

AP US HISTORY
STRATEGIES FOR ANSWERING THE DBQ
“HAPP-Y”

DOCUMENT KEY:

WRITE ONE SENTENCE THAT:

- EXPLAINS WHY THE SOURCE IS IMPORTANT IN RELATION TO –
- OR-
- WHAT THE SOURCE HAS TO DO WITH –

THE QUESTION BEING ASKED!

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- CAUSATION: CAN YOU BRING INTO THE OPEN CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE DOCUMENT AND HISTORICAL FACTS?
- CHRONOLOGY: CAN YOU PLACE THE PRIMARY SOURCE WITHIN ITS APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE HISTORICAL NARRATIVE OR TIMELINE?
- PRIOR KNOWLEDGE: WHAT DO YOU KNOW THAT WOULD HELP YOU FURTHER UNDERSTAND THE PRIMARY SOURCE?

AUDIENCE

- FOR WHOM WAS THE SOURCE CREATED, AND HOW MIGHT THIS AFFECT THE RELIABILITY OR ACCURACY OF THE SOURCE?

PURPOSE

- WHY OR FOR WHAT REASON WAS THE SOURCE PRODUCED AT THE TIME IT WAS PRODUCED? WHAT WAS THE AUTHOR’S GOAL?

POINT OF VIEW

- CAN YOU IDENTIFY AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF WHO THE AUTHOR IS, AND EXPLAIN HOW THIS MIGHT HAVE IMPACTED WHAT THEY WROTE?
- CAN YOU IDENTIFY AN INFLUENCE THAT SHAPED THE AUTHOR OR SOURCE, AND EXPLAIN HOW THAT INFLUENCE SPECIFICALLY AFFECTED THE DOCUMENT’S CONTENT?
- THE MAIN IDEA: WHAT POINT IS THE AUTHOR TRYING TO CONVEY?