Name

Primary Source Analysis Worksheet

Step 1: Identify the Source Answer all known fields				
Source title				
Author or creator				
Type of source				
Date of source				
Original source location				
Physical description				

Step 2: Analyze the Source Answer all known fields, only if evidenced by the source itself				
Author		Intended Audience		
Race		Race		
Age		Age		
Gender		Gender		
Other information		Other information		
(such as job, social		(such as jobs,		
status, family info,		social status,		
etc.)		families, etc.)		

Step 3: Contextualize	and Explore the Source			
Answer only with information evidenced	by the source, otherwise cite or note your			
Secondary source of information Why was this source/document created?				
Why was this source/document created?				
What is the historical context of the source (i.e.				
political, social, economic, or environmental				
context)?				
What opinions and/or unintentional				
implications are conveyed by this source?				
What do you still not know, and where can you				
find that information?				
What contextual information should be noted				
about you, the researcher (i.e. your race, age,				
gender, familial and social background, etc.)?				
How might that influence your interpretation				
of the source?				

Step 4: Using the Source		
What is one historical statement that can be		
made using the source as evidence?		
What can be concluded about the validity of the source, and about its place in the broader historical/social context of the time?		
Where might historians look next to continue the discussion?		