APPARTS Overview

APPARTS is a strategy students can use to help them understand primary source material. APPARTS encourages students to consider both the primary source's message and context by examining a series of questions about a source.

Author: Who created the source? What do you know about the author? What is the author's point of view?

Place and Time: Where and when was the source produced? How might this affect the meaning of the source?

Prior Knowledge: Beyond information about the author and the context of its creation, what do you know that would help you further understand the primary source? For example, do you recognize any symbols and recall what they represent?

Audience: For whom was the source created and how might this affect the reliability of the source?

Reason: Why was the source produced at the time it was produced?

The Main Idea: What point is the document trying to convey? How would you summarize it?

Significance: Why is this source important? What inferences can you draw from this document? Ask yourself, "So What?" in relation to the question asked.

APPARTS Worksheet

Document: _____

Author: _____
_____
_____

Place and Time: _____
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Prior Knowledge: _____
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Audience: _____
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Reason: _____
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The Main Idea: _____
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Significance: _____
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