**Primary Sources Questions**

*Who? Whom? What? Where? When? Why? How?*

1. **Who** created this document? What do you know about the author? Does knowing about the author matter in studying the document? If so, how does it help or hinder you?
2. **Whom** was this document created for? In other words, who was the target audience? Was it for private or public use?
3. **What** is this document? Look at it and describe any physical traits you notice. (For example: Was it a letter written on scrap paper with messy writing, or was it a list of expenses written in a book with pencil?) What can these traits tell you about this document? Can you find any inconsistencies or uncertainties?
4. **Where** was this document created? Does place matter in studying the document? If so, what is the significance of the document in terms of its place of creation?
5. **When** was this document created? What does it reveal about the time period it was created in? Are there any significant events happening during this time?
6. **Why** was this document created? Is its purpose to inform or persuade? Why does this document matter? What is the historical significance of this document?
7. **How** can you use this document to study the past? What questions can it answer? What questions can it NOT answer?



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