READING LIKE A HIST○RIAN

Historical Reading Skills	Questions	*Students should be able to . . .*	Prompts
Sourcing **(Before reading document)**	• What is the author's point of view? • Why was it written? • When was it written? • Is this source believable? Why? Why not?	• **Identify author's position on historical event** • **Identify and evaluate author's purpose in producing document** • **Predict what author will say BEFORE reading document** • **Evaluate source's believability/ trustworthiness by considering genre, audience, and author's purpose.**	This author probably believes… I think the audience is… Based on the sourcing information, **I predict this author will…** I do/don't trust this document because…
Contextualization	• What else was going on at the time this was written? • What was it like to be alive at this time? • What things were different back then? What things were the same?	• **Use context/background information to draw more meaning from document** • **Infer historical context from document(s)** • **Recognize that document reflects one moment in changing past** • **Understand that words must be understood in a larger context**	I already know that _____ is happening at this time… From this document I would guess that people at this time were feeling… This document might not give me the whole picture because …
Close Reading	• What claims does the author make? • What evidence does the author use to support those claims? • How is this document make me feel? • What words or phrases does the author use to convince me that he/she is right? • What information does the author *leave out*?	• **Identify author's claims about event** • **Evaluate evidence/reasoning author uses to support claims** • **Evaluate author's word choice; understand that language is used deliberately**	I think the author chose these words because they make me feel… The author is trying to convince me… (by using/saying…)
Corroboration	• What do other pieces of evidence say? • Am I finding different versions of the story? Why or why not? • What pieces of evidence are most believable?	• **Establish what is true by comparing documents to each other** • **Recognize disparities between two accounts**	This author agrees/ disagrees with… This document was written earlier/later than the other, so…