

## Source Analysis/Critique Template

Document:

Author:

Original date:

A

What else was going on when this document was written (historical context)?  
Is this document a primary or a secondary source?

B

What claims are made in the document?

What evidence does the author cite to support these claims?

What do you think the overall argument (thesis) of this document is?

C

What key words or turns of phrase are important for an understanding of the author's argument?

Write the meaning of these words/phrase in your own words

D

**What was the author's purpose in writing this document?**

**Who was the author's intended audience?**

E

**What factors might lead you to doubt this source? (Consider possible bias, what motives the author might have to be less than truthful, the author's purpose and intended audience)**

F

**To what extent does this document agree or disagree with other sources that describe the same historical events? Identify the other documents and explain the nature of the agreement or disagreement.**

G

**What can historians learn from this document? How might this document provide evidence for your own historical arguments?**