

## Source Analysis using PPP-RRR

URL of the source (if web based):

PPP-RRR	Key Questions	Your Analysis
<b>Provenance</b> When determining the reliability and usefulness of a source it is important to identify the origin of the source.	<b>Who</b> created the source? <b>When</b> was the source created? <b>When</b> was it published? <b>Where</b> was the source created and published Is the source <b>private</b> or <b>public</b> ?	
<b>Purpose</b> We should always question the reason why a source has been composed and who the intended audience was.	<b>What type</b> of source is it? (e.g diary, painting, photograph, newspaper article, etc). Why did the creator chose the particular format?  Is the source <b>primary</b> or <b>secondary</b> ?  <b>Why</b> was the source created? Why does it exist? What was the creator's intent? Has it been produced to entertain, inform, ridicule, influence, frighten, mislead, persuade, or motivate?  Who was the intended <b>audience</b> ? Who did the creator think would see it?	
<b>Perspective</b> When determining the reliability and usefulness of a source it is important to identify the <b>viewpoint</b> of the creator.  Knowing the perspective of a source allows us to approach the source with a great degree of caution as only then can we determine whether it provides a well-balanced view or if the source if filled with bias.	What is the <b>tone</b> of the source (sarcastic, humorous, dramatic, racist, dry and factual, etc...)  What is the creators <b>background, nationality, occupation, qualifications</b> and/or <b>involvement</b> in the event?  Did the creator have an 'axe to grind' or a personal agenda?  In what <b>circumstances</b> was the source created? <b>What was going on</b> in the world, the country, the region, or locality when it was created?  Is the source <b>biased</b> or <b>well-balanced</b> ? Even if it is biased what does it reveal that is <b>relevant</b> ?	

PPP-RRR	Key Questions	Your Analysis
<p><b>Relevance</b></p> <p>Determining whether a source is relevant is critical in deciding its reliability and usefulness.</p>	<p><b>How</b> does this source help give me information? Does it inform my study?</p> <p>Is the information in the source <b>adding to my understanding</b> of the area of study? Why? Why not?</p> <p>Is the source offering a <b>different</b> perspective or understanding? Why? Why not?</p>	
<p><b>Representative</b></p> <p>Once you have determined the motivation behind the creation of a source you need to determine whether the information in the source is backed up by other sources.</p>	<p>What <b>similarities and differences</b> are there between sources?</p> <p>Does the information in one source <b>back up the facts, views and attitudes</b> presented in another source?</p> <p>Is there a <b>whole body</b> of evidence with the same information?</p> <p>Do the views in one source <b>conflict</b> the ideas present in another source? Consider why? Why not?</p> <p>Was this happening in just one place or happening in other places? Or to other people?</p>	
<p><b>Reliability (and usefulness)</b></p> <p>A source is never completely useless nor completely reliable.</p> <p>To determine a source's usefulness and reliability bring your analysis together to <b>conclude</b> about the <b>extent</b> to which it is <b>trustworthy</b> and how <b>relevant</b> it is to what you are studying.</p>	<p>Make a statement regarding the <b>reliability</b> of the source?</p> <p>Is it <i>extremely/very/somewhat/rarely/not very</i> useful or reliable...For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This source is extremely reliable because it was written by a renowned historian who is an expert about..., or,</li> <li>• The source is considered very reliable as the creator was a witness to the event and provides insight regarding their reaction to the situation.</li> <li>• The source is very useful for my study as it backs up the facts from..., or,</li> <li>• The source is not useful for my study because it does not provide any relevant information about...</li> </ul> <p>What are the <b>limitations</b> of the source? Consider what information it doesn't provide. Identify what information has been omitted by the author or consider perspectives or opinions that are not included in the source.</p>	