

Historical Materials Analysis Worksheet

1. Type of Material (Check one)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Map | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertisement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Telegram | <input type="checkbox"/> Congressional Record |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patent | <input type="checkbox"/> Press Release | <input type="checkbox"/> Census Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum | <input type="checkbox"/> Report | <input type="checkbox"/> Audio Speech |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

2. Unique Physical Qualities of the Item (Check one or more)

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interesting Letterhead | <input type="checkbox"/> Notations | <input type="checkbox"/> Handwritten |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artwork | <input type="checkbox"/> Speaking Style | <input type="checkbox"/> Typed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Images | <input type="checkbox"/> Cartoons | <input type="checkbox"/> Seals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Date | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

3. Dates of Item: _____

4. Author (or creator) of the Item: _____

Position (Title): _____

5. For what audience was the item created?

6. How credible (or reliable) is this source? (Check one)

- Very Reasonably Questionable Not at all

7. Item Information

A. List three things about the item that you think are important.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

B. Why do you think this item was created? What purpose does it serve?

C. What evidence in the item helps you know why it was written? Quote from the material or discuss the image.

D. What kind of language / imagery does this item use to make its point? Why would the author/creator make those kinds of choices?

E. List two things the item tells you about life in the United States at the time it was written.

F. Write a question to the author that is left unanswered by the item.

G. How might this document be useful to historians?
