

**Directions:** In order to be successful on the AP US History DBQ, students must not just analyze documents in order to make claims about historical phenomena, they must also analyze them for **H**istorical Context, **A**udience, **P**urpose, **P**oint of View, and the **S**ignificance (Why is this source important?). For every document analyzed, you must perform a **HAPPY** analysis. Being able to identify each of the **HAPPY** components will prepare students for earning the extended document analysis points required for a high scoring DBQ essay.

## HAPPY ANALYSIS OF PRIMARY SOURCES

<b>H</b>	<b>Historical Context</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where and when was the source produced?</li> <li>• Place it in the appropriate context – connect the document across time to earlier and later eras or across space to events happening in different places.</li> <li>• Don't just focus on the year of the document - what else happened that year? How might this affect its meaning?</li> <li>• What else can you remember that is NOT explicitly stated in the document, but could support the time and events surrounding the document?</li> </ul>
<b>A</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who is the author's intended audience?</li> <li>• How might this affect the validity and reliability of the document?</li> </ul>
<b>P</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the author's purpose for creating this source?</li> <li>• Why was this source produced – to persuade, to inform, as propaganda?</li> <li>• How might all of this affect its reliability?</li> </ul>
<b>P</b>	<b>Point of View</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you know about the author and his background?</li> <li>• What role is he in at the time of this doc? What perspective does he have on the topic? From what point of view is he writing this doc?</li> </ul>
<b>Y</b>	<b>Significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What main idea is the source trying to convey?</li> <li>• Why is this source important in American History?</li> <li>• Does it reflect change over time?</li> <li>• Ask yourself, "So what?" in relation to the question asked.</li> <li>• <b>HOW</b> and <b>WHY</b> does this doc support your thesis?</li> </ul>