

## Disciplinary Literacy Instruction:

## “Reading” and Thinking About Complex Texts Like a Historian

**Reading Like A HISTORIAN**

- Historians **contextualize** by asking questions about what was happening in the world at the time the text was written.
- Historians see the text as an **argument**. They read with caution, due to author bias, and challenge the text.
- Historians use **sourcing** to determine what influenced the author’s point of view.
- Historians **critique the credibility** of the author’s argument.
- Historians carefully consider wording and word choice.
- Historians **corroborate** by comparing the text with other sources.
- Historians **synthesize** a large number of texts.
- Historians **evaluate the trustworthiness of multiple sources** rather than memorize facts and dates.
- Historians **wrestle with contradictions** in different texts.
- Historians **infer to develop cause-effect relationships between events** by writing down specifics of who, what, when, where, and why.
- Historians **question explicit connections** when they are provided by the author.
- Historians pay **less attention to graphics** than the words in the text.