Sourcing

Before reading the document, ask yourself:

· Who wrote this?

· What is the author's point of view?

· Why was it written?

· When was it written? (A long time or a short time after the event?)

· Is this source believable? Why or why not?

Contextualizing

· What else was going on at the time this was written?

· What was it like to be alive at this time?

· What things were different back then? What things were the same?

· What would it be like to see this even through the eyes of someone who lived back then?

Cross-Checking (Corroboration)

· What do other pieces of evidence say?

· Am I finding the same information everywhere?

· Am I finding different versions of the story? (If yes, why might that be?)

· Where else could I look to find out more about this?

· What pieces of evidence are most believable?

Close Reading

· What claims does the author make?

· What evidence does the author use to support those claims?

· How is this document supposed to make me feel?

· What words does the author use to convince me that he/she are right?

· What information does the author leave out?

READING LIKE A HIST🔍RIAN