

Educational tools : studying documents.

Some methods to follow to comment on geographical or historical documents.

Written document analysis worksheet.

- Read the following documents, then answer the questions.

1. Check the type of document (check one) :

A newspaper	A memorandum	A press release	A congressional record
A letter	A map	A report	A census report
A survey	A telegram	An advertisement	A speech
A play	A treaty	Memoirs	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (a satire...) :
An oil on canvas	An opinion poll	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical data...

2. **Date(s) of the document.** It dates back to

To what important historical events (or trends) is it related to ? The context of this source is... / At that time.../ In those days.../.....

3. **Author (or creator) of the document :** It was written/ shot/ painted/ drawn by.....

Position (title).....

If he (or she) is famous, what do you know about him (or her) ?.....

4. **For what audience was the document written ?** It was addressed to.../ Its audience was...

5. **Document information :** the document focuses on .../ It raises the problem.../ It explains...

➤ **a) List about three or four key ideas the author said that seems to be the most important** (please rewrite them or quote the document) :

- n° 1 :
- n° 2 :
- n° 3 :

➤ **b) Why do you think this document was written ?**.....

➤ **c) What evidence in the document helps you know why it was written ?**
(Please quote from the document).....

➤ **d) Write a question to the author that is left unanswered by the document :**

Poster analysis worksheet

➤ Look at the following poster, then answer the questions.

1. **Poster identity : author, date and historical context**

2. **What are the main colors used in the poster ?**

3. **What symbols (if any) are used in the poster ? What do they mean ?**.....

4. **If a symbol is used, is it**

a) **clear (easy to interpret) ?**

b) **memorable (easy to remember) ?**

c) **Dramatic ?**.....

5. **Are the messages in the poster primarily visual, verbal, or both ? justify your answer by describing how the poster is organised**.....

6. **Who do you think is the intended audience for that poster ?**.....

7. **What does the author hope the audience will do or think ?**.....

8. **What Government or what people purpose(s) is/are served by the poster ?**.....

9. **The most effective posters use symbols that are unusual, simple, and direct. Is this an effective poster ?**.....

Picture analysis worksheet

Step 1. Observation.

A. Study the picture for 2 minutes. Form an overall impression of the picture, then examine individual items. Next, divide the picture into quadrants and study each section to see what new details become visible.

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B. Use the chart below to list people, objects, and activities in the picture.

People	Objects	Activities

Step 2. Inference.

Based on what you have observed above, list three or four things you might infer from this picture.

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Step 3. Questions.

A. What questions does this photograph raise in your mind ?

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B. Where could you find answers to them ? (identify clearly the resources you are using : your lesson, a school book or any others, or some web sites).

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C. In few words, what do you learn through that picture ?.....

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Word box

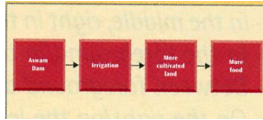
To locate the elements : at the top/at the bottom ; in the bottom left-hand... ; in the corner, on the left-hand side corner... ; (right) in the middle (centre)... ; in the foreground/in the background ; below, in the lower/upper part of..., next to..., **To describe the elements** : the frame, the setting, a character, the sitter (the person portrayed), a full-length/life-size portrait / the vanishing point/line, the main outlines, the diagonal running from the top left to the bottom right corner, the horizontal line dividing foreground and background ; a close-up ; a feeling of depth. **The colours** : shades of..., the colour scheme, bright/vivid colours ; warm/cold tints, gentle#strong colours, gaudy#subtle colours ; on a satellite image the colours stand for... ; the play of light and shade..., the main source of light...

Level 1	
Visuals	Words (if any)
1. List the objects or colors or people you see in the cartoon.	1. Identify the cartoon caption/or title 2. Locate three words or phrases used by the cartoonist to identify objects or people within the cartoon. 3. Record any important date or number that appears in the cartoon.
Level 2	
Visuals	Words (if any)
2. Which of the objects on your list are symbols ? 3. What do these symbols mean ?	4. Which words or phrases in the cartoon appear to be the most significant ? Why do you think so ? 4. List adjectives that describe the emotions portrayed in the cartoon.
Level 3	
A. Describe the action taking place in the cartoon. B. Explain how the words in the cartoon clarify the symbols. C. Explain the message of the cartoon. D. What special interest groups would agree/disagree with the cartoon's message ? Why ?	

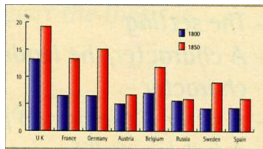
Graphs and Statistics :

What kind of documents ?

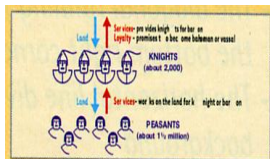
An opinion poll, a survey, a census



A chart is a sheet of information in the form of a diagram or graph....



A bar chart (or histogram) : it uses rectangular shapes side by side

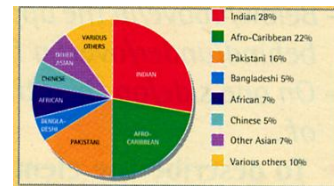


A flow chart (with connecting lines showing cause and effect relationships between informations written in the different shapes.

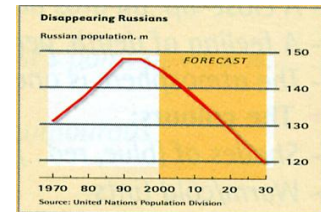
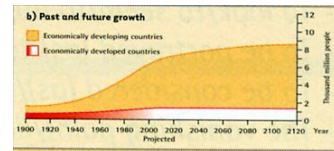
A graph (a line or a curve) shows the relationship between two variable quantities.

NAMES	FACTS
1. Catherine of Aragon (1500-1533)	A. Is north islanded nation, daughter of a country square, married as his widow
2. Anne Boleyn (1533-1536)	B. Is north islanded nation, daughter of a country square, married as his widow
3. Jane Seymour (1536-1542)	C. Is north islanded nation, daughter of a country square, married as his widow
4. Anne of Cleves (1540-1549)	D. Is north islanded nation, daughter of a country square, married as his widow
5. Katherine Howard (1540-1542)	E. Is north islanded nation, daughter of a country square, married as his widow
6. Katherine Parr (1542-1547)	F. Is north islanded nation, daughter of a country square, married as his widow

A table displays information in columns.



A pie chart (divided in segments). The segments shows the percentage of...

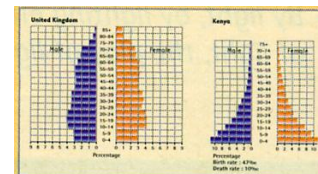


To comment on graphs and stats.

To describe the graph

A curve or a straight line
 a heavy (or solid) line
 a broken line a dotted line

A population pyramid is a horizontal bar graph with census data.



To indicate upward movement

Figures /the graph is / are increasing / rising /climbing /going up by... x per cent / x millions

This is an increase / rise in...

The increase/growth of... is shown / indicated by the dotted /broken/solid line

To exceed /to catch up with (« rattraper ») /to overtake /to take the lead /to rise to...

To peak : « arriver à l'apogée » / the peak year

To indicate downward movement

Figures are decreasing / there is a decrease /drop in...

The curve is falling (to fall to a low of...)

To indicate no movement

To remain steady /stable

To stay constant / to stagnate...

To indicate a change :

To take off / to stop / to recover /

A degree of change :

steeply (steep = abrupt) / greatly, significantly / moderately, slightly

Speed of change :

sharply, fast, rapidly, swiftly / gently, gradually / slowly, at a slow pace

Population pyramid

Horizontal bars : the 10-14 age group / a cohort (« une classe d'âge »),

Age groups depleted by war casualties or low birth rate (phénomène de « classes creuses »)

A low top means short life expectancy / a narrow top means few elderly people

a higher top means longer life expectancy / a wider top means more elderly people in the oldest cohorts

a broad base means high birth rate / a narrowing or a narrow base means falling birth rate.

Speaking about a map

Different kind of maps : a shade map / a dot map / a cartogram (« une carte par anamorphose »)

The location

Borders / boundaries

On a local /national /regional /global

scale, we can see

We learn that...

The coastline

