

The acronym APPARTS provides students with prompts that gives them a format for dissecting and analyzing primary sources. Once students are comfortable using this strategy they will have a valuable analytical tool.

APPARTS Reading Strategy	
From AP Central, College Board	
Author: Who created the source? What do you know about the author? What is the author's point of view?	
Place and time: Where and when was the source produced? How might this affect the meaning of the source?	
Prior knowledge: Beyond information about the author and the context of its creation, what do you know that would help you further understand the primary source? For example, do you recognize any symbols and recall what they represent?	
Audience: For whom was the source created and how might this affect the reliability of the source?	
Reason: Why was this source produced, and how might this affect the reliability of the source?	
The main idea: What point is the source is trying to convey?	
Significance: Why is this source important? Ask yourself "So what?" in relation to the question asked.	