WHAT IS HISTORY?

- History is an account of the past.
- Accounts differ depending on one's perspective.
- We rely on evidence to construct accounts of the past.
- We must question the reliability

of each piece of evidence.

• Any single piece of evidence is insufficient to build a plausible account.



SOURCING

Before reading the document ask yourself:

- Who wrote this?
- What is the author's perspective?
- Why was it written?
- When was it written?

- Where was it written?
- Is it reliable? Why? Why not?



CORROBORATION

- What do other documents say?
- Do the documents agree? If not, why?
- What are other possible documents?

What documents are most reliable?

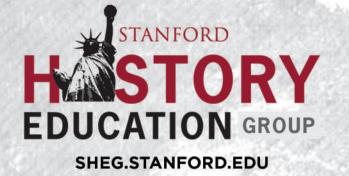


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CONTEXTUALIZATION

- When and where was the document created?
- What was different then?
 What was the same?
- How might the circumstances

in which the document was created affect its content?



CLOSE READING

- What claims does the author make?
- What evidence does the author use?
- What language (words, phrases, images, symbols) does the author use to persuade the document's audience?

How does the document's language indicate the author's perspective?

