

## S.O.A.P.S. Analysis Guide

<p><b>SOURCE</b> What is the Source?</p>	<p>What type of source/document is this? (poetry, diary, government document, etc.) What is the source about? What can I learn about the person or society that produced this document?</p>
<p><b>OCCASION</b> What is the Occasion?</p>	<p>What's the setting? time and place Was the information recorded during the event, immediately after the event, or after some lapse of time? Who is the intended audience? What are the historical circumstances? What events surrounded the source? What's the culture like? How might the context affect the content of the source?</p>
<p><b>AUTHOR</b> Who is the Author?</p>	<p>Who wrote the document? What is the author's qualifications, background, expertise? Did the recorder have firsthand knowledge of the event? or, did the recorder report what others saw and heard? What is the social position of the author? What religion, sex, and class is the author?</p>
<p><b>PERSPECTIVE</b> What is the point of view?</p>	<p>Why was the document written? What is the intent of the author? What perspective or point of view is presented? Why does the author hold that point of view? What are the "loaded" words? (clues to bias) Can I believe this document?</p>
<p><b>SOURCES</b> Are there other sources?</p>	<p>Are there other sources to support this source? Are there sources which disagree with this source? Why? What's the same? What's different? Do sources acknowledge counter evidence? Is anything omitted? Do I have enough evidence to explain a historical event?</p> <p>Finally.....</p> <p>Which sources would I choose to create the historical story? Why?</p>