Physical Primary Source Analysis

Materials

* A physical primary source of any kind
* Credible library or internet informational resources

Instructions

* Select a physical primary source that you have worked with in class, in Marshall University Special Collections, or that you have encountered in your personal life. There are no restrictions on size, age, or ownership—whether you choose to write about a pen, a textbook, a photograph, a phone, or an entire building is up to you!
* Use the worksheet for the relevant format to assist you in writing a 500 word paper where you analyze your source:
  + - [Photograph Worksheet](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/photo_analysis_worksheet.pdf)
    - [Written Document Worksheet](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/written_document_analysis_worksheet.pdf)
    - [Artifact/Object Worksheet](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/artifact_analysis_worksheet.pdf)
    - [Poster Worksheet](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/poster_analysis_worksheet.pdf)
    - [Map Worksheet](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/map_analysis_worksheet.pdf)
    - [Cartoon Worksheet](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/cartoon_analysis_worksheet.pdf)
    - [Video Worksheet](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/motion_picture_analysis_worksheet.pdf)
    - [Sound Recording Worksheet](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/sound_recording_analysis_worksheet.pdf)
    - [Artwork Worksheet](https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/artwork-analysis-worksheet.pdf)
* If you don’t feel your format is represented, feel free to use the questions for the most similar format as inspiration—just be sure to follow the general structure outlined in each worksheet: “Meet the source. Observe its parts. Try to make sense of it. Use it as historical evidence.”
* Cite any outside sources using the Chicago citation style and a references page.