



MIDDLE SCHOOL STANDARD ARTIFACT ANALYSIS

1. Using your five senses, make as many observations as you can about the object in the viewer. Think about the texture, color, shape, size, decoration, and markings on the object. Write your observations below:

2. Look again at the object. Does it contain other clues for you? Does it have handles, wheels, switches, knobs or moveable parts? List the items you see in your second observation:

3. Let's now conduct some interpretation (fancy words for guessing):
 - a. How was the object made (by hand? by machine?) _____
What makes you think so? _____
 - b. Is it a household item, a farming tool, an item used in manufacturing or business? Is it a recreational item? Does it connect to religion? To Fashion? _____
What clues led you to your choice? _____
 - c. Who might have used this object? Men? Women? Children? Workers? Native Americans? _____
What makes you think that group used it? _____

STOP AND THINK: Review your answers to #'s 1, 2, and 3.

Write a paragraph in which you suggest what the object is, how it was made and what it might have been used for. Support your ideas with the evidence you have gathered through your observations.

EXAMPLE: My object is egg-shaped, brown with white stripes at each end. It is made of leather. It has laces on one side and a valve for filling it with air. The stitches along the seams seem to be machine stitches. The word "WILSON" is printed on one side over the valve. I think that the object is a football which would probably have been most used by men or boys. (Use the attached sheet to write your answer.)

