



MIDDLE SCHOOL – SOCIAL STUDIES – STANDARD QUESTIONS

1. Examine the object in the viewer. List the characteristics of the object below.
(Hint: think about the texture, size, color, shape, decoration, etc.)

2. Look again at the object. Examine it more closely. Magnify it. Spin it. Does it contain other clues for you? Are there dates, wear marks, handles, switches, knobs, or compartments? Does it appear that any of the parts move? List below the additional characteristics you have discovered.

3. Combine your observations in a full and complete description of the object.

4. From your list, see if you can determine any of the following:
 - a. Was the object made by hand, or by a machine?

 - b. Do you think the object was used in any of the following:
 - i. Agriculture ____ (justify with evidence from your analysis)

 - ii. Manufacturing ____ (justify with evidence from your analysis)

 - iii. Business ____ (justify with evidence from your analysis)

 - iv. The Home ____ (justify with evidence from your analysis)

 - c. Do you think the object was probably used by:
 - i. Children ____ (justify with evidence from your analysis)

 - ii. Women ____ (justify with evidence from your analysis)

 - iii. Men ____ (justify with evidence from your analysis)



5. STOP AND THINK:

- a. Review your answers to questions “1” through “4.” Using the information from your analysis:
 - i. State what you think the object might be, who you think might have used it, and for what purpose it was created.
 - ii. Why do you think this object might be important in your study of Social Studies?
6. Study the accompanying context support documents and check your ideas/assumptions against the information in those materials. Write a final statement identifying the object and its original purpose.