“HAPPY” Document Analysis Worksheet

Title of document:

Historical Context

• Causation: Can you bring into the open connections between the Document and Historical Facts?
• Chronology: Can you place the Primary Source within its appropriate place in the Historical Narrative or Timeline?
• PRIOR KNOWLEDGE: What do you know that would help you further understand the Primary Source?

Audience

• For whom was the source created, and how might this affect the reliability or accuracy of the source?

Purpose

• WHY or FOR WHAT REASON was the source produced at the time it was produced? What was the author’s GOAL?

Point of View

• Can you identify an important aspect of WHO the author is, and explain HOW this might have impacted what they wrote?
• Can you identify an influence that shaped the author or source, and EXPLAIN HOW THAT INFLUENCE specifically affected the document’s content?

Why

• How does the document impact/shape/reflect popular arguments on the subject?
• How does the document reflect ‘continuity or change over time?
• What are the limitations of the document?

American freedom

• What does this say about the landmark and its cultural influence on American freedom?
• How does local history parallel national history?