

## Visual Document Analysis Handout\*

*educated guesses are encouraged!*

### Question

**What is the image's date, title, & creator?**

**What type of person might have created this image, and for what purpose?**

**Was it random or posed, amateur or professional, private or published?**

### Observe

**Describe what you see in the image.**

*(be specific and attentive to detail)*

**Explain what is happening in the image.**

*(use your specific details as clues)*

**In about one sentence, state the image's overall message.**

### Reflect

**How does this image compare with other evidence?**

**Why might other evidence (messages and data) agree/disagree with this image?**

**What else do you need or want to know about this image?**

\* adapted for use with *Beyond Words 2.0* from a synthesis of the Library of Congress's "Teacher's Guides and Analysis Tools" and Wineburg, S (1991) Historical problem solving: A study of cognitive processes used in the evaluation of documentary and pictorial evidence. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 83(1) 73-87.