Questioning Sources

Literal Questions	Inferential Questions	Evaluative Questions
Who was the source created by? For whom was the source created?	Why do you think that the individual or group portrayed in the source acted in a particular way? Explain your reasoning.	Does the source show any bias? Is the creator of the source trying to present only one of the many perspectives? What words/phrases/ images suggest bias?
What do you know about the creator of the source? You might consider the following: age, gender, social position, occupation, religious beliefs, political beliefs etc.	Why did the creator of the source produce it? Consider whether it was to make money, influence people, tell their side of the story, record an event, criticise someone etc.	Are there any parts of the source that seems to be inaccurate? Describe these and explain why you believe these parts are inaccurate.
When was the source created?	Who might have been the intended audience for the source? How do you think the creator wanted the audience to respond?	Does the source that you are looking at support, or contradict, another source that you have looked at? What is this other source? In what ways do the sources support/ contradict each other?
What was happening at the time? Consider significant events, the political situation, common beliefs and prejudices, social norms etc.	List evidence from the source and your knowledge about the creator that led you to your conclusions.	Does the source offer opportunities for further research and cross-referencing?