

I READ

Identify the author and date.

- Who wrote this document?
- What do you know about him or her?
- Why might the author write this document?
- When was it written?
- What else was going on at this time that might have influenced the author?

Read the whole document once to figure out the author's perspective.

- What is the author saying?
- What does the author want or believe?
- How would the author answer the historical question?

Earmark phrases that clued you into the author's perspective.

- How do you know what the author thinks?
- What words or phrases give the author's perspective away?

Assess the setting.

- What type of document is this and where did it appear?
- For what occasion was this written?
- Who was the audience?
- Where were these events and authors located?

Detail your evaluation of the document in the margins.

- What are reasons to trust and doubt this author?
- Is the author in a position to be a good reporter?
- What does the author stand to gain or lose?
- Is the document believable?

I READ

Identify the ✓ author and date.

- Put an arrow next to the author and time period information.



Read the whole document once to figure out the author's perspective...

- Put a big box at the bottom and write the author's perspective in it.

The author believes Shays' men were rebels.

Earmark phrases that clued you into the author's perspective.

- Put boxes around word choices and phrases that give you information about the author's perspective.

Assess the setting

- Underline information that tells you about the setting (e.g., type of document, where it appeared, the occasion and audience for the document, and the location).

Detail your evaluation of the document in the margins

- Write notes in the margins that evaluate the document...

The author might say this to win an election.