Primary Source Worksheet

What kind of source is it? (ex. written diary, oil painting, film, etc.)

Who created this source?

When did they create it?

Briefly summarize the content or message of this source. What does it say?

If the author is describing something, how far removed are they from the events they are describing?

Who do you think was the intended audience(s)?

What were the author’s potential motivations or reasons for creating this source?

What makes the author reliable as a source of information?

What makes the author unreliable as a source of information?

What can this source tell you about the time and place in which it was written?