**HAPPY a Document – an historian’s approach to analyzing primary or secondary source documents**

**Historical context -** What was happening during the time the document was written?

What was happening during the time the of the content of the document ?

**Audience -** By whom is this document intended to be read? Think about the people, groups, locations that may read this document and how they may perceive it.

How may the intended audience affect how the author wrote it?

**Point of view –** What does the author think or believe about the topic of the document?

What is the background of the author AND how may it affect the way the author perceives the topic of the document?

**Purpose -** Why did the author write this document?

What do you think the author was trying to get across with this document?

**Your use of the document –** How can you use this document to support, refute or otherwise affect your understanding of history?