

How To Analyze Historical Paintings & Photos

Paintings and photographs can help you history. Use this worksheet to analyze the place, time, people, and situations of historical paintings or photographs.

Step 1: Observe and List

Briefly study the painting or photo. Be sure to examine it carefully in order to discover important details.

Do you know the location or place portrayed by the painting or the photo?
Can you identify the time period that is shown?

Place:

Time:

Then study the painting or photograph and describe what you see.

- Are there people in the painting or photo? If so, how many? Describe them below:

- Are there objects in the painting or photo? Describe them below:

- What is the setting, or scenery, in the painting or photo? Describe it below:

- What is happening in the painting or photo? Describe the scene below:

Step 2: Analyze the Photo

Write a brief summary of the events taking place in the painting or photo.

Based on what you observed in the painting or photo, describe what you find interesting in it.

Step 3: Draw Conclusions

How does this painting or photo help you understand the historical time period or subject area you are studying?