**Historical Thinking Chart: Think & Link**

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| **Historical Reading Skills**  | **Questions to ask yourself** | **Words to describe your answers** |
|  **The Source*** Identify the author of the document.
* Identify type of document being analyzed.
 | * Who wrote this?
* When was it written?
* Where was it written?
* Is it a primary or secondary source?
 | * This document was written by...
* This document is a primary/secondary source because…
* This document was written during the...
 |
| **The Description*** Describe what you read about.
* Describe artwork.
 | * Describe the main ideas.
* List supporting details.
* Describe a work of art.
 | * The most important issue discussed is…
* The author uses these details to support the main idea…
* The artwork shows...
 |
| **The Background/Context*** Use your background knowledge of the time period to describe the events surrounding the creation of the document.
 | * When and where was the document created?
* What was different then? What was the same?
* How might the circumstances of the time influence the information in the document?
 | * Based on the background information I understand this document differently because…
* The author might have been influenced by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (historical context).
* This document might not give me the whole picture because...
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| **Perspective*** Using your background information, make an educated guess about why the author of the document created it.
* Decide whether the source (author) is biased on neutral.
 | * What is the author’s perspective?
* What claims does the author make?
* What language (words, phrases, images, symbols) does the author use to persuade the audience?
* Is the author biased or neutral?
 | * I think the author chose the words in order to…
* The author is trying to convince me…
* The author claims…
* The evidence used to support the author’s claim is...
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| **The Reaction*** Describe how people may have reacted to the document during the time period it was created.
 | * What background information do you have that explains how people reacted to this document when it was first created?
 | * People living during this time thought\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about the document.
 |
| **Compare and Contrast*** Describe what other documents say.
* Do the documents agree? If not, why?
* Decide which documents are most reliable
 | * Decide which is more probable by comparing documents to each other
* Recognize differences between accounts
 | * The author agrees/disagrees with…
* These documents all agree/ disagree about…
* Another document to consider might be...
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