



## Image Analysis

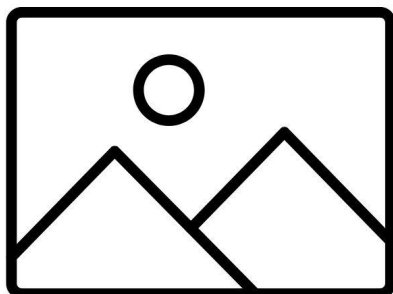
The Image Analysis strategy trains students to “read” images as historical texts—examining how artists, photographers, and illustrators convey meaning through composition, symbolism, and perspective. Just like written documents, images are primary sources that reflect the values, fears, and conflicts of their time.

In the first phase, students brainstorm. Students read the source information and list what they already know about the author, event, people, or context. This step activates background understanding and situates the image historically.

In the second phase, students describe and analyze the prominent element. Students focus on what stands out. Students identify the most prominent feature in the image and then make observations, connections, and inferences to interpret it.

In the third phase, students engage in quadrant analysis. Students divide the image to see more deeply. Students mentally (or physically) divide the image into four quadrants to capture minor details often overlooked in first impressions. In each section, they note symbols, expressions, colors, or movements, then interpret how these choices contribute to the overall message.

This strategy develops students’ visual literacy and critical analysis by helping them recognize that images aren’t neutral, but rather are interpretations of events. By moving from observation to inference, learners strengthen their ability to source, contextualize, and evaluate evidence. Students learn to treat visuals as arguments, not decorations, gaining deeper insight into how representation shapes collective memory and historical understanding.



Brainstorm



Prominent Element



Quadrant Analysis

