

Source Analysis

Discussion Expectations

This course will have regular source discussions throughout the semester. In these lab discussion sessions, you will be asked to analyze texts, films, maps, or podcasts. Using specific techniques, you will analyze these sources to think about them from multiple perspectives and interpret their meaning. You will fill out an analysis sheet each time we discuss a source in class. You will turn in a paper copy on the date it is due. For students to get credit for the source analysis sheets as a part of their ePortfolio, they must be in class for the discussion.

Analysis

For many of you, the process of analysis may be something new and intimidating. Here are some questions/thoughts to help you think analytically. At different times, I may ask you to prioritize certain questions in the list. What is the creator's main claim, thesis, or argument?

- Is the creator trying to prove anything?
- Why was the source created?
- What was the purpose of the source?
- Who was the audience for the source?
- What does this source teach us?
- How does the source help us understand something about our problem?
- When was the source created and what did it mean to the people during that time?
- Consider the creator and what perspective/bias that might bring to the source.
- Consider what in the source doesn't fit or might surprise you.
- Does the source remind you of anything?
- Why is this source important?

Adapted from Lab Worksheet created by Prof. Spencer and Dr. Jill Anderson

Due Date: _____

Name: _____

Source Analysis

Title: "This is the tale of two pandemics"

Author: Kate Newton, Felipe Rodrigues and Alex Lim

Source Date: Sep 19, 2021

Source Type: Scrolly-Telling Article

Context (what is important to note about the creator, when it was created, its audience, or its format?): _____

This was created in 2020, at the height of COVID-19, it was a group of seven researchers, detailing, seemingly in real time the effects of the coronavirus and how it ravaged New Zealand, and in particular, Auckland. Its audience was likely new Zealanders who were terrified of the news and wanted to know how this started, the format is, for the first time is a scrolly-telling example.

Summary (what important facts about the source's content should we note for our discussion): This article had a remarkably eerie feel as it showed what was happening in real-time, at the top the days as they passed by, and a graph of the cases of coronavirus and how it diverged from Auckland and the rest of New Zealand, and the pictures also told a story, and the lack of pictures told something very terrible, such as the lack of pictures on the line "New Zealand reports its first Covid death, as total cases crack 500." It got the sense of fear everyone was feeling at the time, I myself got shivers down my spine while reading.

Analysis (what should we take away to better understand our problem and its stakeholders?): One stakeholder is every person who was trapped in their house during that time and people who were consumed by absolute fear for not only themselves but also their family members, especially those especially prone to illness. Fear is a way to capture everyone's attention, and in a strange way, it unites us all, we all were together in our fear, hoping that we would be able to go outside again without fear.