



Teaching With Primary Sources

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Demo Lesson**

Inspiration, Intent, and Objective

- 1. Introduced to primary source pedagogy by Dr. Pauline Schmidt and saw how primary sources deepen one's engagement with inquiry and writing.**
- 2. Analyze a primary source using observation, inference, and questioning to construct meaning from its content.**
- 3. Be able to learn about three strategies: Guided Questions, the Question Formulation Technique, and the Zoom-in strategy to analyze a primary**

Primary and Secondary Sources

Can you tell the difference?



Is a speed

**Starting the
conversation
:**

**What is a
primary
source?**

A little bit about me...

What do you think is happening in this picture? Is this a primary or secondary source? Explain your choice. What do you NOTICE? What do you WONDER?



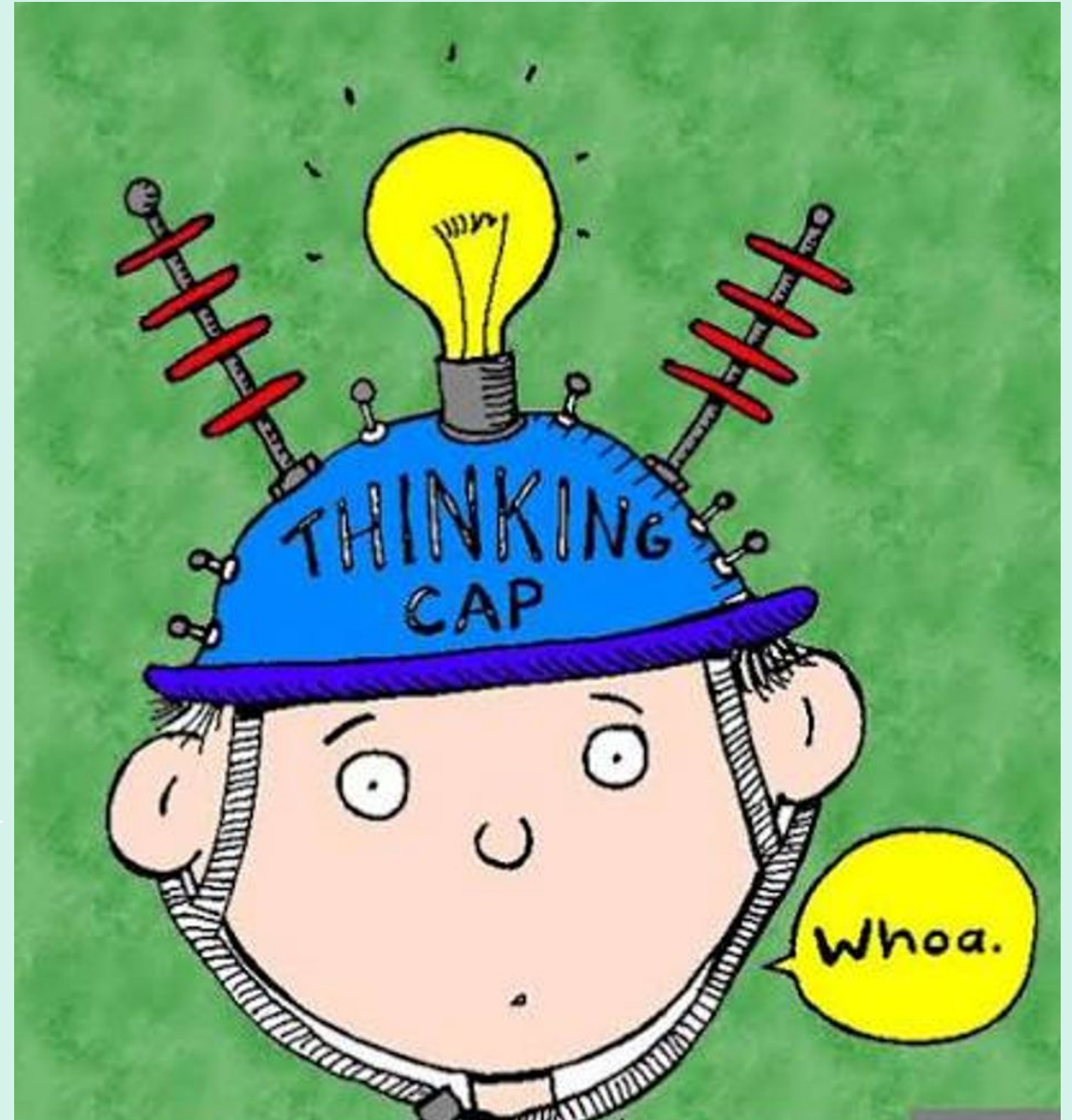
Strategy 1: What are guided questions?

Guided questions are scaffolded questions that a teacher provides to help students progress through the thinking process, step-by-step, such as:

- a. What do you notice first? OBSERVATION**
- b. What do you think it means? INFERENCE**
- c. What do you wonder? QUESTIONING**
- d. Does this remind you of anything else? REFLECTION**

A little bit about You...

**Think of a picture that
would say a little bit
about you. Describe that
picture. Reflect on the
time that it was taken.**



Strategy 2: What is the question formulation technique?
QFT encourages students to produce their own questions rather than answer questions posed by a teacher. Teachers provide a Question Focus in the form of a primary source.



Transportation in the past



<http://www.loc.gov/item/2001705509/>

**your turn
to write
some
questions
based on**



Strategy 3: What is the zoom-in technique?

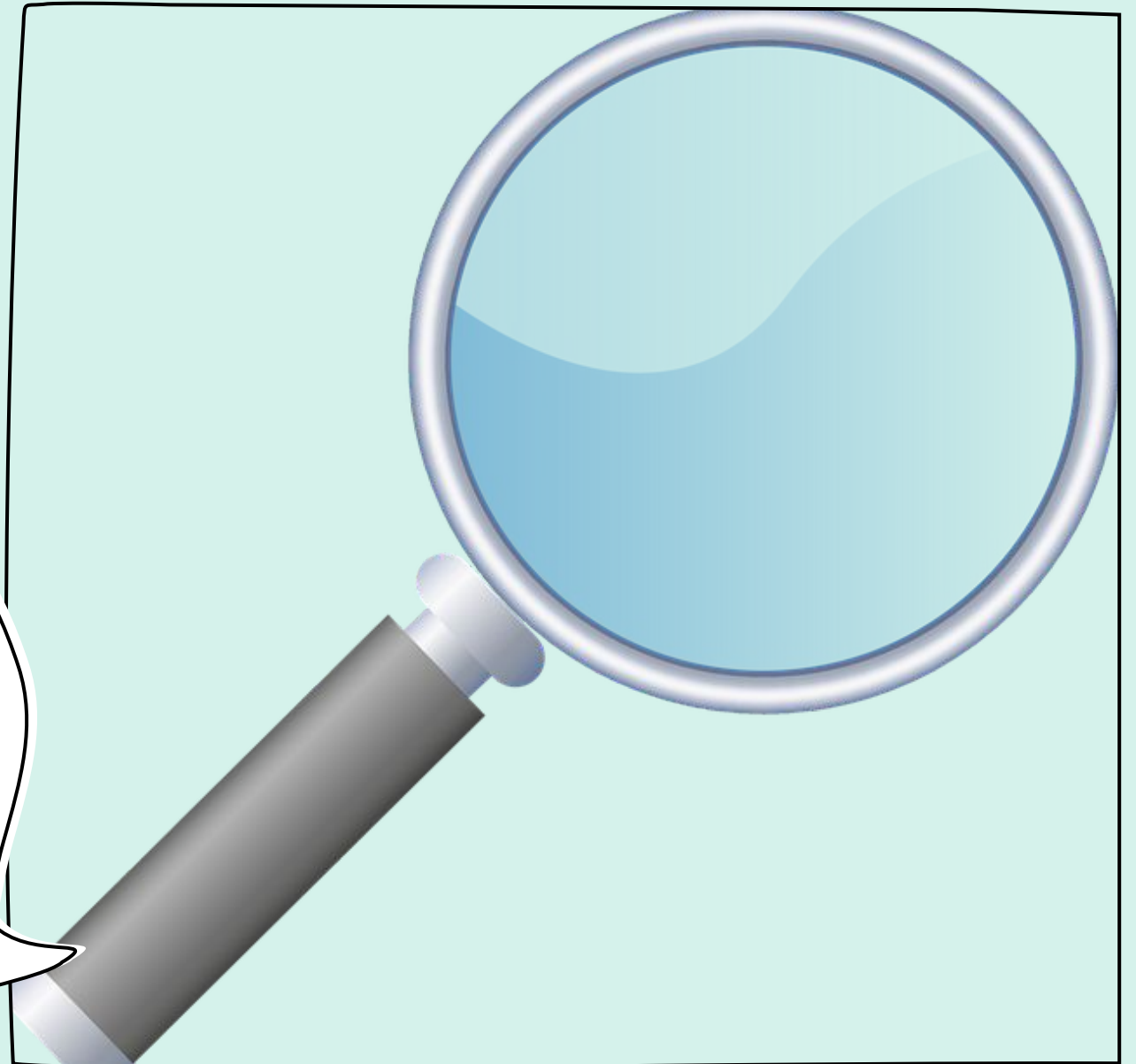
- 1. The first Zoom, by showing only a small cropped section of the source.**
- 2. Ask guiding questions at this stage**
- 3. Zoom out gradually and reveal more of the image in stages.**
- 4. Full reveal by showing the complete source.**
- 5. Reflect by writing how their interpretation shifted as more context appeared.**

Lichtenberg Station, Berlin, 2014



[http://www.loc.gov/
item/2020696491/](http://www.loc.gov/item/2020696491/)

Using the Zoom-In strategy, what have you found out? How is it different from when you look at the source without zooming in? Does it change anything?





Writing with primary sources

Pick one image of
your choice and
extend your
writing. Why did
you choose that
image? Explain
your thoughts and

The thinking wall



One idea you will try



One insight you gained

References

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