# READING LIKE A GEOGRAPHER

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<th>Reading Skills</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Students should be able to...</th>
<th>Prompts</th>
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| **Sourcing**   | • What is the author’s point of view?  
• Why was it written (purpose)?  
• When was it written?  
• Where was it written?  
• For whom was it written (audience)?  
• Is this source believable? Why? Why not? | • Identify author’s geographic perspectives (familiarity and experience based on where he/she lives or has traveled), cultural background, or territorial associations  
• Identify and evaluate author’s purpose in producing document. (How and how widely was it intended to be shared or disseminated?)  
• Predict what author will say BEFORE reading document  
• Evaluate source’s believability / trustworthiness by considering genre, audience, and author’s purpose | This author probably believes...  
I think the audience is (close circle of friends, local region, national, international)...
Based on the sourcing information, **I predict this author will**...  
I do/don’t trust this document because... |

| Contextualization | • What might this information look like if mapped?  
• What else was happening where this source was written and at other places?  
• Does the source illustrate patterns of environmental or human processes?  
• What is unique about the place | • Apply a geographical perspective to life situations  
• Explain the relationships of people, places and environments from the perspective of where they occur and why they are there | If this information or situation were mapped it might look like...  
The consequences for both human culture and the physical environment might be... |
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<th>Close Reading</th>
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| - What claims does the author make?  
- What evidence does the author use to support those claims?  
- How does this document make me feel?  
- What words, phrases or geographic concepts does the author use to convince me that he/she is right?  
- What information does the author leave out (intentionally or not)? | - What do other pieces of evidence say?  
- Am I finding different versions of the story? Why or why not?  
- What pieces of evidence are most believable?  
- Establish what is true by comparing with known geographic data (topographic info, population data, etc.)  
- Recognize disparities between two accounts |
| - Infer geographic context from document(s) | - Identify author’s claims about event  
- Evaluate evidence / reasoning author uses to support claims  
- Evaluate author’s word choice; understand that language is used deliberately |
| - This place is unique because... | - This author agrees / disagrees with...  
- One clue that this author was/wasn’t from this area, location or region is...  
*The author’s account of an event or problem includes these geographic details that lead me to believe or doubt his familiarity with the place or event. [this is way too wordy. Yours may be more useful]* |