AP English Language

Ms. Frates

**Source Analysis Worksheet:** Read each source carefully, and write a summary of the author(s)’ position. Answer the following questions, and use your answers to help you respond to the source. Then write a brief response to the source. Include your observations regarding the author(s)’ credibility, logic, bias, etc.

Title:

Date of Publication:

Type of text or source:

Author:

1. Specific position taken by the author(s):
2. At least one quote that shows the author’s position:
3. If the text’s argument is **explicitly** based on research or facts, is the research or information questionable in any way? (Explain)
4. If the text’s argument is **implicitly** based on research or factual information (such as an editorial cartoon might be), what appears to be the source of the information?
5. What unstated assumptions are prerequisite to accepting the main argument? Be clear in thinking about and answering this question.
6. If these assumptions were exposed, would acceptance of the argument by the intended audience be less likely? Explain.
7. If the conclusion drawn in the argument were widely accepted, who would benefit and in what way(s)? Carefully consider beneficiaries that the text does not mention.
8. Would anyone be put at a disadvantage? In what way?

Adapted from an assignment created by Mary Paine, Messalonskee High School, 2008