

Positioning Sources

Directions: First, take a few minutes to skim through each of the sources you are given. Then, discuss and record your answers to the following questions in your group (have one person record the group's answers). If you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper.

Source #1

MLA citation:

What is the purpose of the source? Factual information? Parody? Propaganda?
How do you know?

Who might be the audience of this source? How do you know?

If this source has advertising, who advertises in the source? What does this tell you about the potential biases of the source?

How much authority does the source claim (if it does)? Is this authority justified?

Whose interests (liberal, environmental, feminist, conservative, pro-gun control, etc.) does the source represent? How do you know?

Whose interests does the source seem to ignore? How do you know?

If you cited this source in a paper, how would you use it? As an authoritative source? As an opinion? Why?

Source #2

MLA citation:

What is the purpose of the source? Factual information? Parody? Propaganda?
How do you know?

Who might be the audience of this source? How do you know?

If this source has advertising, who advertises in the source? What does this tell you about the potential biases of the source?

How much authority does the source claim (if it does)? Is this authority justified?

Whose interests (liberal, environmental, feminist, conservative, pro-gun control, etc.) does the source represent? How do you know?

Whose interests does the source seem to ignore? How do you know?

If you cited this source in a paper, how would you use it? As an authoritative source? As an opinion? Why?