

Data Retrieval Chart: Historical Photographs*
educated guesses are encouraged!

| Question the Source | |
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| <p>What is the photograph's date, title, & creator?</p> <p>What type of person might have created this photograph, and for what purpose?</p> <p>Was it random or posed, amateur or professional, private or published?</p> | <p>1904, <i>The famous torii of the temple built over the sea, on the sacred Island of Miyajima, Japan</i>, and an unknown photographer. This photograph was taken in Japan and there is a Shinto shrine (not a Buddhist temple as the title suggests) build over the sea.</p> <p>While the photographer is unknown; the publishers and copyright owners are (Elmer) Underwood & (Bert) Underwood, brothers who started a photography company to provide newspapers and magazines compelling images to accompany articles and help sell more copies.</p> <p>Seemingly random because the Torii and small boat are both independent of the photographer. Yet, somewhat posed in the sense that the photographer obviously wanted both in the viewfinder and they are perfectly framed within the trees.</p> |
| Observe the Context | |
| <p>Describe what you see in the photograph. <i>(be specific and attentive to detail)</i></p> <p>Explain what is happening in the photograph. <i>(use your specific details as clues)</i></p> <p>In about one sentence, state the photograph's overall message.</p> | <p>This structure is called a "torii." It is a symbolic gateway into a Shinto shrine; it is a demarcation between the spaces of the ordinary world and the sacred space of the shrine</p> <p>This is the Seto Inland Sea a large body of water that separates Miyajima Island, seen in the foreground, from the Honshū island, seen in the background. Because Miyajima and Honshū are both islands of Japan, the construction of this torii in the water between them is not a problem. However, what might happen if two different nations separated by water wanted to construct monuments or build structures—or develop artificial islands—in the water? How would they go about resolving conflicts?</p> <p>This island (Miyajima) is a naturally-made geographic feature. Japan also has 15 human-made, artificial islands. An artificial island was made for the Kansai International Airport in Osaka and another to house Yokohama's amusement park, Sea Paradise. A controversial artificial island, however, is Okinotori, which is 1,000 miles south of Tokyo and very small (about two acres). Japan has spent over \$600 million dollars in coastal engineering to turn Okinotori from a partially-submerged reef into an island: they added tetrapods to prevent erosion, piled masses of sand, and covered it with a rust-proof titanium net. Claiming Okinotori as its southernmost island gives Japan a large and profitable "exclusive economic zone" in the Philippine Sea.</p> |
| Corroborate the Evidence | |
| <p>How does this photograph compare with other evidence?</p> <p>Why might other evidence (messages & data) agree or disagree with this photograph?</p> <p>What else do you need or want to know about this photograph?</p> | <p>Much of the information gathered from this photograph coheres with photographs that explore international law as it concerns national sovereignty, acquiring territory, or the environment.</p> <p>Other photographs or texts may explore international law, the acquisition of land, and territorial water issues, from different perspectives that answer the overarching question differently. Other sources may have different reasons for presenting data, such as to make their perspective seem more reasonable, or to present the "other side" in a less positive way.</p> <p>What role, if any, should the United Nations play with the issue of territorial waters today in the 21st century? That association of nations was formed to promote international cooperation and peace; should territorial waters be a topic that the United Nations addressed directly?</p> |

* adapted from a synthesis of the Persistent Issues in History's "Document Analysis Worksheet" and the Library of Congress's "Teacher's Guides and Analysis Tools" and Wineburg, S (1991) Historical problem solving: A study of cognitive processes used in the evaluation of documentary and pictorial evidence. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 83(1) 73-87.