

Document Report

This piece of work is designed to introduce you to the primary literature (in translation) and for you to demonstrate understanding both of the text and its historical significance. These sources produced during the period you wish to examine are important; they are the main source material for (ancient) historians and an important source for archaeologists material and enable us to listen to voices from the past

NOTE we do not want you to rewrite the document in your own words. Instead we want you to write a meaningful analysis of the document within its historical context.

First....

1. What is the text, when was it written and by whom? Please give this information at the beginning of your report.
2. The content – present this clearly in a short summary at the beginning of the text. The aim of the exercise is for you to analyse the document, not to rewrite it in your own words.

Please consider the following:

1. Who wrote the text? How reliable/accurate is their account? Can you identify any bias?
2. When was it written? What is the historical context for the text? (This requires you to read around the subject to contextualise your source material.)
3. How reliable is this text as a historical source?
 - a. Can we use it to construct a political history?
 - b. What about a social or economic history?
 - c. How does it correspond with other documents of the period?

Finally....

Please include a reference list. This should include your primary source – check the referencing handbook to see how to reference ancient sources.

You should be looking at the wider historical significance of the primary source – please refer to relevant literature.