Document Analysis Writing Assignment

On this assignment, you will be required to analyze and interpret the itme presented. It could come in the form of a quote, picture, political cartoon or a short essay or excerpt. You will be given one week to complete the assignment. Understand that completion of this activity could require additional research in order to fully answer the questions below. Each numbered item below is worth 5 points for a total of 40 points.

1. Write your name, date and class period in the upper right corner.
2. Write the first line of the quote or essay or excerpt or the title of the picture or cartoon in the center of the paper. Skip two lines
3. In the first paragraph answer: What is the main idea? What message is being conveyed or presented? Skip one line.
4. In the second paragraph discuss the author. What do you know about the source? How would the source be biased toward or affect the meaning? Why is this person writing this document? If the source is anonymous, state so. Skip one line.
5. For the third paragraph, evaluate the context of the piece. When and where was it written? How does the time and place impact its meaning? Why now in this place? Skip one line.
6. In the fourth paragraph, what is the purpose of the piece? Is the author attempting to inform his/her audience, persuade, entertain, or cause the audience to question? Is the piece effective in this goal? Skip one line.
7. In the fifth paragraph, discuss what the piece implies but does not directly state. What is the hidden message? What message was being conveyed historically? Skip one line.
8. Finally, in the sixth paragraph, can any parallels be made to another time period or another event or passage which is similar?