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Grade level: 5

Primary Source Citation: Confederate Currency, 1861-1865, McComb Public Library, retrieved from: Ohio Memory, http://ohiomemory.org. [Original web site not valid. Search Ohio Memory site for button images.]

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the photograph located at the above link while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

Level I: Description

1. What are these items used for?
2. How does the color and images of the buttons in the collection change?

Level II: Interpretation

1. Which of the buttons do you think were more effective in the presidential campaign?
2. What are some ways in which the buttons in the collection have changed visually?

Level III: Analysis

1. What do the various buttons tell you about the different periods in American history and government?
2. Select two buttons from various points in history. Find two strong comparisons between the two buttons. Find two strong contrasts between the two buttons.
3. Out of the collection, which buttons do you think were more instrumental in the helping the candidate win?