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Grade level: 6

Primary Source Citation: Deposition v. Sarah Buckley & Mary Witheridge, Sept 15, 1692, Benjamin Hutchinson. Massachusetts Archives, Volume 135: Witchcraft Papers, <http://etext.virginia.edu/salem/witchcraft/archives/MA135/>.

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the document 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 does the document say?
2. What kind of material was this written on?
3. Was there any direct evidence of witchcraft in this documentation?

Level II: Interpretation

1. Do you believe this really happened?
2. Why does the language sound different?
3. What do you think happened because of this deposition?

Level III: Analysis

1. What would you do if this happened to you or a loved one?
2. Do you think something like the witch trials could ever happen again? Why or why not?
3. Would you admit to being a witch if convicted of witchcraft? Why or why not?