



Created by: Katie Pierce and Cameron Quick, Schaefer Middle School

Grade level: 6-8

Primary source citation: *Two Bison* cave painting in Lascaux, France, early period, 15,000-10,000 BC.

http://www.kenney-mencher.com/pic_old/nontechnological_cultures/lesson_3_prehistory.htm

Cave paintings from eastern Borneo, accessed at National Geographic, <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0508/feature2/gallery1.html> (photographs 3-6).

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the images located at the above links 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 details do you see in the pictures?
- 2 What materials were used?
- 3 What kind of source is this, primary or secondary?

Level II: Interpretation

- 1 Are the cave paintings old? How do you know?
- 2 What do you notice about the way the scientists are examining the art and artifacts?

Level III: Analysis

- 1 What do the paintings tell you about this period in history?
- 2 What does photograph #5, "Magical Journey," show about their religion?
- 3 Explain why digging through remains of a culture gives us clues about the way they lived.
- 4 Explain why archaeologists have to use tiny brushes and sift carefully through remains.
- 5 Based on these paintings, what can you infer about these people's language?



Wounded bison attacking a man
c. 15,000-10,000 BC
bison length 43 in. (110 cm)
Lascaux, France



