Created by: Elaine Garrison, Northwestern Elementary School

Grade level: 4


Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the photograph 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 kind of transportation is represented in the photograph?
2. What buildings do you see in the picture?
3. What is the covered area with the pillars to the left of the train?

Level II: Interpretation

1. Why do you think there were so many tracks in this photograph?
2. What kinds of things would have been transported on these trains?
3. Is the train standing still or moving? How can you tell?

Level III: Analysis

1. What kinds of dangers would be involved with trains and train terminals?
2. Why were large train terminal important to the life of large cities in America?
3. By the 1950s, train terminals like these were not very busy. What changed in America to reduce the need for this kind of transportation?