Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the document 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. In what year was this petition written?
2. Who are the writers of this petition?

Level II: Interpretation

1. What are the authors stating in this petition?
2. To whom is the petition addressed?

Level III: Analysis

1. Whose voice is not heard in this petition?
2. Is the desire stated in this petition a constitutional? For whom is it constitutional?
3. What does this petition tell you about Ohio schools and segregation?
To the Directors of the Union School
of the Town of Massillon

The undersigned households of the Town of Massillon, Stark County, and State of Ohio, under Statute passed Feb. 24th, 1848, made and presented for the admission of colored children into the common schools set apart for white children into the common schools, which reads as follows: That in every city incorporated Town or Village or Town of Justice or Organized by the State containing a Cap number than any black or colored children desire of attending School. It shall be the duty of the School Directors of any School District organized for the education of white children to admit such black or colored children therein, and they shall be entitled to the benefits as if they could be if they were white children, under the Acts to which this is an amendment. Proceeding to no objection be filed with the Directors signed by any person having a child, in such district, or by any legal voter of such district, a petition respectfully presents to the said Directors, as requested by the above Statute, or writing hereto.
children be denied the privilege and benefits of said Union School erected expressly for white children of the Town of Wapsellon. Further, we urge that the colored children that now have access into said school may be discharged from upon the relief of this
our objection.

Wapsellon, Nov. 22, 1845

S. L. Blacker

J. E. McLean

John Tenney

C. T. Diller

T. E. Hill

E. R. Deisher

J. R. Blake

John Shepley

J. M. Redick

C. P. Diller

E. P. Redick

F. H. Brush

C. M. Hillman

J. W. Runyon

J. E. McLean

W. J. Davis

J. W. Adkins

D. S.Welch

E. S. Davis

J. F. C. H. Weller

John Adkins

Geo. White

David Blacker

R. B. Harvey

T. H. Blacker

G. W. Adkins

J. L. Blacker

W. H. Weller

J. B. Adkins

E. B. Blacker

J. J. Blacker

J. A. Blacker

J. L. Blacker

J. F. Davis

J. A. Blacker

J. H. Davis

J. C. Blacker

W. H. Davis

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children be enrolled. The privileges and
benefits of said Union School extended
specifically to White children of the
Town of Massillon. And further that
the colored children that have been
received into said school may be discharge
therefrom upon the receipt of this
our resolution. Massillon, May 22, 1849.

Wm. Blackman
Mark Wellington
J. Johnson
David R. Trumpson
Wm. Brown
John Shipley
J. P. Dorey
L. L. Bond
W. R. Matson
W. H. Motz
P. H. Fennin
O. J. Pickle
C. D. McMillan
Clay Pashen
John Rutledge
R. S. McVeon
Thos. Sturgeon
Jas. King
Samuel Bell
John Wilson
Dan. Harbaugh
J. P. Keller
J. E. McGaugan
J. W. Allen
J. W. Kilner
Lovern H. McKinley
T. P. Hare
Geo. Swool
John Terry
J. Olin Upchurch
Leverett Belcher
J. B. Keller
L. K. Balderline
M. L. McEwan
V. Wofford
J. R. Mangin
W. S. Mount
A. J. Hambarger
E. R. Harris
Adam Shela
John Schadmura
Nathan B. Smith
David E. Knoton
Hugh Woodring
Wm. Sear
Adam Hummel
W. P. Peck
J. P. Keller
To the Directors of the Union School of the Town of Massillon

We, the undersigned householders of the Town of Massillon, Stark Place, and State of Ohio, under the Statute passed Feb. 24, 1848, made and provided for the admission of colored children into the common schools, set apart for white children into the common schools, which reads as follows: That in every City incorporated Town or Village or Seat of Justice containing a less number than twenty black or colored children desirous of attending school. It shall be the duty of the School directory of any School district organized for the education of white children to admit such black or colored children upon the same terms, and they shall be entitled to benefit, as they could be if they were white children, under the acts to which this amendment provided no objection be filed with the directory signed by any person having a child in such school or by any aged voter of such district. 

Would respectfully present to the said directory as requested by the above Statute (in writing) our objection to the admission of colored children into said Union School and to the full benefit there of or any part of the sum. And we further urge as a right given by said Statute that the said colored children be debarr'd the privilege and benefits of said Union School erected expressly for the white children of said Town of Massillon. And we affirm this anger that the colored Children that have been received into sd school may be discharged there from upon the receipt of this our "objection" Massillon Nov 22 1848

Thos Blackburn J.E. McLain
Mark Wilhington
John Tennis
L. Lehman
H.F. Uhle
David F.C. Traphagan
Lewis Hurxthal
Geo.A Kellenberger
T P Reed
Wm Brown
Geo Searl
John Shipley
John Terry
L. F. Dony
Oliver D. Hail
E.C. Bond
Louis Welker
D.K. Atwater
J.S. Kelley
C.M. Oberlin
P. Baldwin
D.K. Fenner
A.L. McCarty
O & K Dickey
V Moffit
D McMillan
S Oberlin
C.N. Oberlin
T.S. Mount
Silus Rawson
A.S. Humberger
John Huntness
H.B. Harris
R.S. McEwen
Adam Sibilia
Thos Fitzgerald
John Schodmuller
Jas Cuny
Nathan G Smith
Saml Bell
David Huntsman
John Wilson
Hugh Creighton
Dan Harbaugh
Wm Bean
S.P. Kesler
Adam HammerSmith
G.D. Hine
M Derdenger
H.W. Smith
Jas Lazaret
Wm Johnstone
M [illegible]
Saml McCaughey
W.A. Reed
Saml H Whitehead
Thos Glen
Isaac Nettleton
Lewis [unclear]