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Grade level: 5

Primary Source Citation: William McKinley during Front Porch Campaign, 1896, photograph, William McKinley Presidential Collection P399, Ohio Historical Society, Ohio. http://www.ohiopix.org/record-display/p267401coll32/9168

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 item or items stand out in this picture?
2. Who or what is the focal point in the picture?
3. What type of clothes do you notice?

Level II: Interpretation

1. Based on what you have noticed, when do you think this picture might have been taken?
2. Where are the people gathered?
3. What do you think the man in the center is doing?

Level III: Analysis

1. What do you think is happening in the picture?
2. (After hints on what is going on) How does this compare to similar ways that presidential candidate’s campaign in our generation?