

# Analyzing Museum/Historic Site Exhibit

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Hour \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of museum or historic site \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) What is the general theme or story line of the entire exhibit? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Select one section or display to analyze. Which one did you choose? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) What is the particular theme of the section or display case? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Choose one artifact to analyze \_\_\_\_\_ State its exact or approximate age (circa) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Is this an actual artifact or a reproduction? \_\_\_ actual \_\_\_ reproduction \_\_\_ not sure
- 6) Describe its physical qualities (material it is made of, dimensions, probable weight, texture, color, condition, lettering) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7) What was its function or purpose? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) How does this object fit into the theme or help tell the exhibit's story? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 9) What other objects are nearby? \_\_\_\_\_  
How do they all tie together? \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) Read the object's label and evaluate its quality - Enough information? Too much?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 11) Describe how this object is displayed (on a horizontal or vertical surface, on a mount, mannequin, or some other means) \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) You are the curator - describe a different way you may choose to present it in this exhibit  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Activities:

- 1) Plan out an exhibit of your favorite objects from your personal life. What objects would you include? What would the theme be? How would you display them for visitors? How would you create your labels for each object? What would they look like? What is the visitor to do – simply view your objects or take a more interactive approach?
- 2) Assume that your school will close tomorrow and will reopen as a historic site in 75 years. Everything will remain in its place as of the end of today. You or your historic site team is to plan out this future historic site. What areas would you create? What areas of the building and what objects would be of primary importance? What would visitors in 75 years do here?