Point of View: Analyzing Documents
Read documents carefully

- Why was THIS person producing THIS piece of information at THIS time and in THIS manner???

- We will be using the SOAPStone method to evaluate documents.
Who is the speaker??
What is the source??

- HOME - country of origin-ethnic identity
- OCCUPATION
- GENDER
- WORLDVIEW – religious or cultural or philosophical
- AGE
- REAL KNOWLEDGE- what are the limits of what they know or could know?

- IDEAS – are they political or economic or social or intellectual?
- SOCIAL STATUS including caste or class or wealth or education
What is the occasion?

- What is the time and the place?
- What context was the primary source created in?
- When and where *was this source produced*?
What is the Intended Audience??

• Who are the readers to whom this document is directed?

• The audience may be one person ~ a small group ~ a large group

• It may be directed to a certain person or a certain group of people
Purpose??

- What is the reason behind the text?
- Why was it written?
- What goal did the writer have in mind?
What is the general topic... content ... or idea in the text?

You should be able to summarize the text in a few words
Finally ... what is the **TONE**?

- What is the attitude of the speaker?
  - Tone words →
    - Sad or wistful
    - Insensitive
    - Fanatical or obsessed
    - Cruel or ruthless
    - Amused or tolerant
    - Negative or defensive

- More tone words →
  - Annoyed or disgusted
  - Worried or in a panic
  - Excited or guilty or ashamed