

# Object Analysis Graphic Organizer

Welcome to the Autry Museum of the American West! The Autry Museum has a collection with thousands of items that are made available to people in different ways such as exhibitions. The Autry Museum offers many different exhibitions. These exhibitions display artifacts that tell stories about the different people of the American West. Artifacts can be items such as artwork (e.g. paintings), documents (e.g. letters), or objects (e.g. tools). In this activity, you are going to analyze or study an object in one of the exhibitions at the Autry Museum. Pick your favorite object from any exhibition. Then analyze the object using the following steps.

**STEP 1** - Look closely at the object you picked without reading the caption label. A caption label gives detailed information about the object. Then describe the object by answering the questions in the chart.

LOOK CLOSELY AT THE OBJECT	MY ANSWERS
What is the name of the exhibition that the object is located in?	
What does the object look like? Describe its color, shape, size, etc.	
What material(s) do you think the object is made of?	

**Make a sketch (a simple and quick drawing) of the object.**

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**STEP 2** - Without reading the caption label, analyze the object by thinking about what the object is. Write your answer in the space below. Explain your thinking.

I think the object is a/an \_\_\_\_\_

because \_\_\_\_\_

**STEP 3** - Without reading the caption label, look around the object you picked. Is the object by itself? Is the object grouped with other objects (located near other objects or in a display case with other objects)? Think about why the object you picked might be by itself or grouped with other objects. Write your answer in the space below.

I think the object is (write either *by itself* or *grouped with other objects*) \_\_\_\_\_

because \_\_\_\_\_

**STEP 4** - Without reading the caption label, think about what questions you have about the object. Examples of questions might include: Who made the object? When was the object made? What was the object used for? Why does the object look the way it does? Write your questions in the space below.

Question #1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Question #2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Question #3: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Question #4: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**STEP 5** - Find the caption label. The caption label gives detailed information about the object and is usually located near the object. Then read the caption label to learn more about the object and to see if you can find the answers to any of your questions from STEP 4. After reading the caption label, write what you learned about the object in the space below.

The object is a/an \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

One thing I learned about the object is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Another thing I learned about the object is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**STEP 6** - Show the sketch you made of the object to someone else (classmate, family member, friend, teacher, etc.). Then share what you learned about the object with them.