Background Information:

- This candidate seeks a position as an assistant professor in a department of history.
- This interview is for such a position at EMU, a master's university.
- The candidate has been asked to teach a 30-minute lesson in a 50-minute class on early U.S. history because it fit best with the interview schedule. (The candidate's main area of interest is 20th-century US history.) He finds out that the class is for first- and second-year students.
- The instructions were that he could teach anything he wants, as long as it fit the general topic of the class. Because the class was covering the American Revolution at the time of his visit, he decided to focus on a key historical document during that period. From looking at the syllabus, he also knows that the class will ask students to write a research paper using historical documents from the time.
- Because the candidate was not very skilled in the use of PowerPoint, he decided to go "low-tech," using only the blackboard and handouts.
- In his cover letter and during other parts of the interview, the candidate stressed that he values "active learning" and "getting students engaged with historical research."

The Clip:

This clip shows ten minutes of the 30-minute lesson. The hiring committee is seated in the back of the class. After being introduced to the class by the committee:

PART 1: The candidate gives instructions for a group activity. (attached)

[Groupwork is cut, when the candidate circulates to answer questions. He then asks groups to write their thesis statement on the board.]

PART 2: The candidate debriefs the activity.

After the class, the candidate leaves, and for the remaining minutes, the hiring committee discusses the class with students.

Sample Teaching Demonstration

Your Notes:

Situational Factors

The lesson was appropriate for the situational factors of the teaching situation.

Goals and Objectives

The candidate's instructional goals and objectives for this lesson were clear.

Feedback

Feedback about student learning was effectively built into the lesson.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Teaching and learning activities aligned with the candidate's teaching philosophy.

Teaching and learning activities were used effectively.

Other comments:

By His Excellency the Right Honorable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His MAJESTY'S Lieutenant and Governor General of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, and Vice Admiral of the fame.

A PROCLAMATION.

As I have ever entertained Hopes that an Accommodation might have taken Place between GREAT-BRITAIN and this colony, without being compelled by my Duty to this moft difagreeable but now abfolutely neceffary Step, rendered fo by a Body of armed Men unlawfully affembled, bring on His MAJESTY'S [Tenders], and the formation of an Army, and that Army now on their March to attack His MAJESTY'S troops and deftroy the well difpofed Subjects of this Colony. To defeat fuch unreafonable Purpofes, and that all fuch Traitors, and their Abetters, may be brought to Juffice, and that the Peace, and good Order of this Colony may be again reftored, which the ordinary Courfe of the Civil Law is unable to effect; I have thought fit to iffue this my Proclamation, hereby declaring, that until the aforefaid good Purpofes can be obtained. I do in Virtue of the Power and Authority to ME given, by His MAJESTY, determine to execute Martial Law, and caufe the fame to be executed throughout this Colony: and to the end that Peace and good Order may the fooner be [effected], I do require every Person capable of bearing Arms, to [refort] to His MAJESTY'S STANDARD, or be looked upon as Traitors to His MAJESTY'S Crown and Government, and thereby become liable to the Penalty the Law inflicts upon fuch Offences; fuch as forfeiture of Life, confifcation of Lands, &c. &c. And I do hereby further declare all indentured Servants, Negroes, or others, (appertaining to Rebels.) free that are able and willing to bear Arms, they joining His MAJESTY'S Troops as foon as may be, for the more fpeedily reducing this Colony to a proper Senfe of their Duty, to His MAJESTY'S Leige Subjects, to retain their [Quitrents], or any other Taxes due or that may become due, in their own Cuftody, till fuch Time as Peace may be again reftored to this at prefent moft unhappy Country, or demanded of them for their former falutary Purpofes, by Officers properly authorifed to receive the fame.

GIVEN under my Hand on board the ship WILLIAM, off NORPOLE, the 7th Day of NOVEMBER, in the SIXTEENTH Year of His MAJESTY'S Reign.

DUNMORE.

(GOD fave the KING.)

University of Virginia

Sample Teaching Demonstration

- 1. What kind of document is the source, and what kind of historical evidence can it provide?
- 2. How great is the distance between the author of the source and the event he or she describes? Is this source a firsthand account, written by a witness or a participant? Was it written at the time of the event or later?
- 3. What are the possible biases of the source? Everyone document is biased, whether deliberately or unconsciously, by the point of view of the person who wrote it.
- 4. For whom was the document created? Was the author writing for a specific audience? Did the person have an outcome they wanted their words to bring about?
- 5. How might you use the document in a paper?
- 6. You are writing a very short paper on the your topic using this one source. Write the thesis sentence of your paper.