

CHAPTER 7 / Analyzing a Picture

Illustrations are visual documents that can provide useful information about the era in which they were created and the artist's point of view. Below is an illustration by William M. Cary, created two weeks after the famous Battle of the Little Bighorn. Look carefully at the illustration, and then, on a separate piece of paper, answer the questions below using the image and information from the text.



The Battle on the Little Big Horn River—The Death Struggle of General Custer, by William M. Cary, published in the *New York Daily Graphic*, July 19, 1876

- (1) What is the title of the illustration? What year was it created?
- (2) What is the illustration about?
- (3) Find Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer's location in the illustration. Why do you think Cary placed him there?
- (4) After studying the illustration, what conclusions can you draw about the artist's point of view?
- (5) Do you think this illustration is a reliable source of information? Why or why not? Support your answer.