



Guiding Questions for Documents

Documents 1-2

- Why do you think this event was called a “Human Be-In”?
- Based on the picture of poet Allen Ginsberg at the event, what kind of mood do you imagine was found at the “Be-In”?
- How does the newspaper account describe the participants at the “Be-In”? The overall mood?
- What impression does the newspaper account give of the way most outsiders viewed the “Be-In” and the people who attended it?
- According to the newspaper account, what role did illegal drugs play in this gathering?
- What does “psychedelic” mean? Why might the advertisement for the “Be-In” be described as “psychedelic” art?
- According to the advertisement, what sorts of things are participants encourage to bring? Who is encouraged to attend?
- Do you think your character would have wanted to attend an event like this? Why or why not? What kinds of people would have wanted to attend, based on the description in the article?

Document 3

- What is a manifesto? Why might the Diggers have wanted to write one?
- What do the Diggers say their goals are? Why do they want a “free store”?
- What do you think the Diggers meant by the following quotes:
 - “A store of goods or clinic or restaurant that is free becomes a social art form.”
 - “A salesman in a free store is a life-actor. Anyone who will assume an answer to a question or accept a problem as a turn-on.”
 - “When materials are free, imagination becomes currency for spirit.”
- Do you think your character would have been attracted to the Diggers’ philosophy? Why or why not?

Document 4

- What does Thompson believe is the central element of the culture in the “Hashbury”?
- What, according to Thompson, is the origin of the word “hippie”? How would you summarize his definition of what makes someone a hippie?
- Do you think your character would have become a hippie, or be sympathetic to the hippie ideal as described by Thompson? Why or why not?

Document 5

- When was the Monterey Pop Festival? Why would some consider it to be the start of the “Summer of Love”?



- What does the drawing of the woman in the poster suggest about the attitudes toward conventional society of those who promoted and attended the concert?
- Why do you think this poster is described as an example of “psychedelic” art?
- What do you notice about the crowd at the festival? How are they dressed? How do they behave?
- Do you think your character would have wanted to attend the festival? Why or why not? How difficult do you imagine it would have been for him/her to get there?

Document 6

- When is this poster from? How long before the “Summer of Love” were these concerts?
- What bands played at the concert? In addition to the bands, what else does the poster advertise?
- What can you tell about Chet Helms and the Family Dog based on this poster?
- How would you describe the artistic style of this poster?
- What role do you imagine a concert such as this may have played in encouraging people to come to San Francisco the following summer?



Graphic Organizer

After you have discussed the documents with your group, complete the chart on the next page. Use the categories from your Character Profile sheet to identify which subjects are most relevant to the document.

| | | | | |
|-------|----------|-------|--------------|------------|
| Music | Politics | Drugs | Civil Rights | Literature |
|-------|----------|-------|--------------|------------|

| Document | Brief Description | Subject | How does this document reflect your historical figure's role in the Summer of Love? Would it have influenced their decision to go to San Francisco or help organize it? If so, how? |
|----------|-------------------|---------|---|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | | | |