

THREE CLOSE READS – DATA

Name:

Date:

Directions: Before you read, look at the “Pay Attention to” and “Questions” lines. Write your answers in the text box.

Chart Title: _____

Data Exploration Author: _____

Overall question or idea to think about as you read:

Reading 1: Preview – What do we have?

This will be your quickest read. It should help you get the general idea of what this chart is about and the information it contains.

Pay attention to: *Labels*

Question: What is the title? How are the axes labeled? Is anything else on the chart labeled?

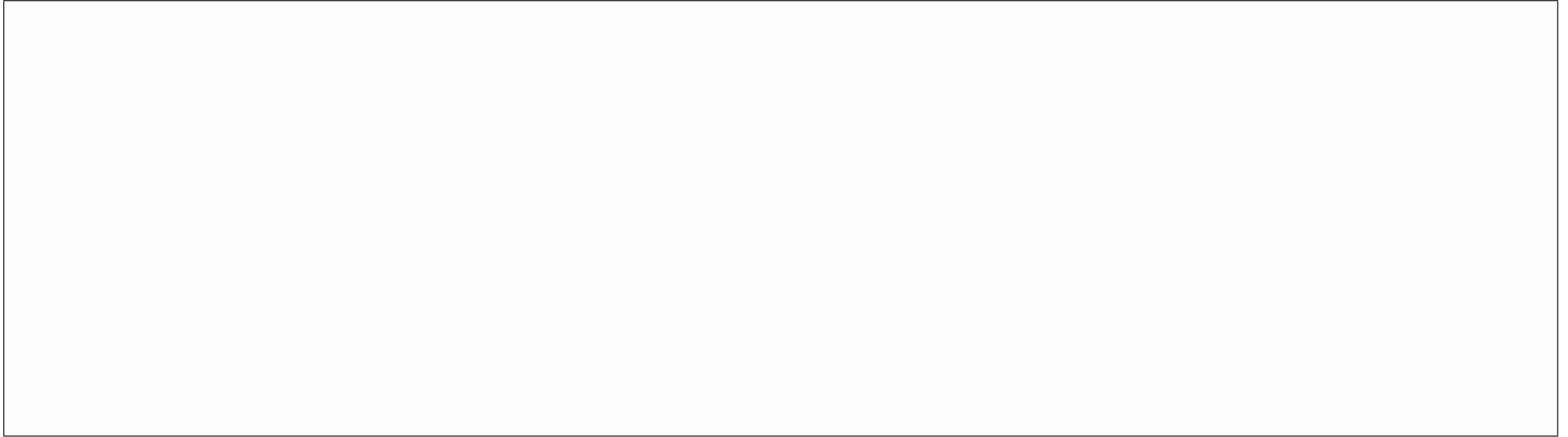
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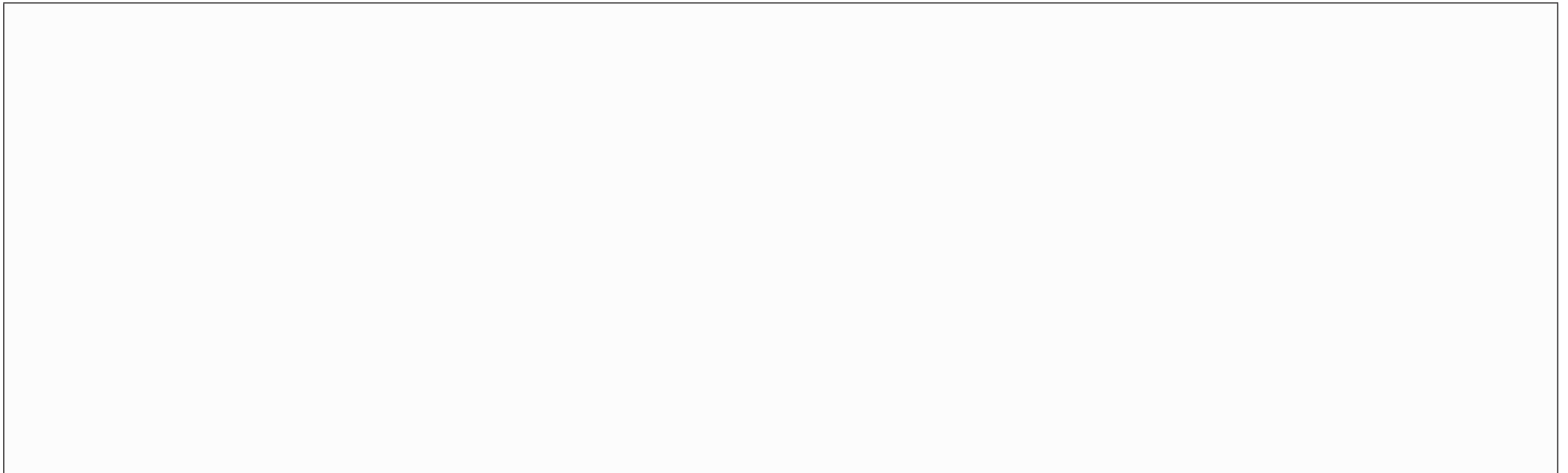
Pay attention to: *Data representation*

Question: How many variables are there and what are they? What are the scales? What time period does the chart cover? Is the chart interactive?



Pay attention to: *Data source*

Question: Where did the data for this chart come from? Do you trust it? Who created the chart?



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Reading 2: Key ideas – What do we know?

In this read, you will pay attention to the information that most helps you understand the chart and the information it is trying to convey.

Pay attention to: *Claim(s)*

Question: What can you say about the data? What story does it tell? Can you make any claims about this data? Does it change when you zoom in compared to when you look at the data as a whole?

Pay attention to: *Evidence*

Question: What data from the chart supports this story? Does this change if you change the scale or variables?

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Pay attention to: *Presentation*

Question: How does the way this chart is presented influence how you read it? Has the author selected certain variables or scales that change the conclusions that can be drawn? Is there anything missing from this chart?

Reading 3: Making Connections - What does this tell us?

The third reading is really about why the chart is important and what it can tell us about the past and help us think about the future.

Pay attention to: *Significance*

Question: Why does this matter? Does this impact me, and if so, how? How does it connect what is going on in the world right now? How does it relate to what was happening at the time it was created?

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Pay attention to: *Back to the future*

Question: How does this data compare to today? Based on what you now know, what are your thoughts on this phenomenon 25 years, 50 years, and 100 years from now?