Reading personal items: What items say about their owners

*What is your first impression when you look at this item?*
What is this item?

What is this item made of?

What was this item used for?

What type of person would use this type of item?

Where was this item used?

*Now, take a second look.*
What evidence of use do you see?

What are some details that you notice under close inspection?

*Examine details of the item.*
Look carefully at how the owner changed the object. What types of tools were needed for these modifications?

What do these modifications say about the values of the owner?

What does this object say about everyday life in the Philippines for a POW?

Why was this object important enough to somebody that it was saved for all these years?

What could this object have represented to that person?

*Classification*
How would you classify this item in a larger organization scheme?