



Identifying Primary and Secondary Sources

Name: _____

Solve each problem.

Answers

• A **Primary Source** is information that was created at the same time as an event or by a person directly involved in the event.

Diaries, speeches, letters, official records, autobiographies.

• A **Secondary Source** is information from somewhere else or by a person not directly involved in the event.

Encyclopedias, textbooks, book reports.

- 1) A newspaper article describing last night's storm.
- 2) Abraham Lincoln's diary describing what he thought about the civil war.
- 3) A YouTube video describing how the pyramids were built.
- 4) A live football broadcast.
- 5) A diary written by a slave describing how his life was.
- 6) A youtube video of a historian summarizing speeches by John F. Kennedy (former President of the United States).
- 7) An interview with Alexander Graham Bell about how he invented the telephone.
- 8) A short story describing Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla's 'electrical' battle.
- 9) A radio broadcast from the day the Soviet Union launched Sputnik.
- 10) A text book describing the civil rights movement.
- 11) A youtube video by 'Tech Enthusiast Mike' describing Steve Job's (founder of Apple) time at Apple.
- 12) A football player describing his time in the NFL.
- 13) A classmate giving a report about World War 2.
- 14) A twitter post by someone describing a movie they just saw.
- 15) A biography about the sixteenth president, Abraham Lincoln.

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Answers

- 1) A newspaper article describing last night's storm. P
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- 3) A YouTube video describing how the pyramids were built. S
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