



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) The diary of the Caleb Bradham (creator of 'Pepsi') describing his early life.
- 2) A biography about the sixteenth president, Abraham Lincoln.
- 3) A book describing Christopher Columbus sailing to America.
- 4) A Vietnam veteran talking about the war in Vietnam.
- 5) A TV show explaining what happened in Vietnam.
- 6) A journal written by Lewis about his exploration of the Louisiana Purchase.
- 7) Another student reading a report about the tanks from World War 1.
- 8) An interview with Alexander Graham Bell about how he invented the telephone.
- 9) A reporter describing his time in Iraq.
- 10) A journal written by Sequoyah about how he created the Cherokee alphabet.
- 11) A newspaper article from 1941 describing the attack on Pearl Harbor.
- 12) A text book describing the civil rights movement.
- 13) Rosa Parks describing her role in the Montgomery Alabama bus boycotts.
- 14) An employee of McDonalds describing the type of person Ray Croc (founder of McDonalds) was.
- 15) A short story describing Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla's 'electrical' battle.

1. _____
2. _____
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