



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 short story describing Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla's 'electrical' battle.
- 2) An autobiography about Bill Gates.
- 3) Neil Armstrong giving an interview about being the first man to walk on the moon.
- 4) An autobiography about the 40th president, Ronald Reagan.
- 5) A friend telling you about his teacher last year.
- 6) A sports section writer for a newspaper describing how a football player's life was during his time in the NFL.
- 7) A website describing what the first World's Fair was like.
- 8) A college professor describing how the pilgrims lived.
- 9) A friend describing the snowstorm he was in last year.
- 10) A history book describing Lewis and Clark's exploration of the Louisiana Purchase.
- 11) A webpage talking about how life may have been in ancient Greece.
- 12) A Vietnam veteran talking about the war in Vietnam.
- 13) A cartoon showing how Pocahontas met John Smith.
- 14) A scientist describing how the pyramids were made.
- 15) A painting by Leonardo DaVinci.

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Answers

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- 2) An autobiography about Bill Gates. P
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