

Identifying Primary and Secondary Sources

Name:

Answer Key

Determine if the source would be a Primary Source(P) or a secondary Source(S).

• 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 painting by Leonardo DaVinci.
- 2) A letter from John Smith about his meeting with the Powhatan Indians.
- 3) A text book describing the 'the great war'.
- 4) A college professor describing how the pilgrims lived.
- 5) A reporter describing his time in Iraq.
- 6) A friend giving a report about the Industrial Revolution's changes to America.
- 7) The movie Titanic.
- 8) A biography about the sixteenth president, Abraham Lincoln.
- 9) An Indian writing about how his ancestors used to use all parts of the animals they hunted.
- 10) A documentary about how 'Wizard of Oz' changed movies forever.
- 11) A blog written by an employee describing what it is like working at Apple.
- 12) Neil Armstrong giving an interview about being the first man to walk on the moon.
- 13) A newspaper article describing last night's storm.
- 14) An autobiography about Bill Gates.
- 15) The History Channel' explaining how life was for a slave.

Answers

- 1. **P**
- , P
- 3. **S**
- 4. **S**
- 5. **P**
- 6. **S**
- 7. <u>S</u>
- 8. <u>S</u>
- 9. <u>S</u>
- 10. **S**
- 11. **P**
- 12. **P**
- 13. **P**
- 14. **P**
- 15. **S**