SOURCE PRACTICE

**Primary Source:** anything created at the time of the event. This can also be a person that experiences the event first-hand.

**Secondary Source:** where the writer or creator is not an eyewitness or experienced the event. Explains or interprets the event or topic.

**Test Yourself!**

Write “P” for Primary or “S” for Secondary

1. A biography about Abraham Lincoln. _______
2. An interview with a Vietnam Veteran. _______
3. A journal article written about how Native people lived centuries ago. _______
4. The US Constitution. _______
5. A poster of the US Constitution. _______
6. An interview with someone who remembers when the Berlin Wall fell. _______
7. A textbook describing the Civil War. _______
8. The History Channel explaining life as a servant in the 19th century. _______
9. The movie *Titanic*. _______
10. A letter from John Smith about meeting with the Powhatan Indians. _______
11. A song written in 1919 about the Suffrage movement. _______
12. A diary found in 2016 written in 1918 by a factory worker. _______
13. A picture of the Apollo 11 Launch in 1969. _______
15. The birth certificate of Princess Diana. _______
16. A US newscast reporting on a flood in China last night. _______
Key:
1. S (Abe did not write it about himself, this explains and interprets his life.)
2. P (The veteran experienced the war. Even if the interview is decades later, the veteran's experiences are still true.)
3. S (Not from the time, and contains interpretations.)
4. P (A document from 1776.)
5. S (A copy, could have been edited. Always try to find the complete text or original form of the document/object. You don’t have to physically touch the document/object to cite it, but you must be able to view the entire thing to fully understand its context.)
6. P (They do not have to be at the wall, but they were alive at the time of the event. That counts!)
7. S (Not from the time of the event, a textbook is meant to explain and interpret an event.)
8. S (Not from the time of the event, explaining what happened from an outsider’s view.)
9. S (Not from the time of the event, a re-creation of the event.)
10. P (From the time of the event.)
11. P (From the time of the event.)
12. P (From the time of the event. Doesn’t matter when it was found.)
13. P (From the time of the event.)
14. S (Not from the time of the event.)
15. P (From the time of the event, an original, official document.)
16. P (From the time of the event, does not have to be in the same location.)