Identifying Primary and Secondary Sources

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

Remember

• **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** gets its information from somewhere else or by a person not directly involved in the event.
  
  *Encyclopedias, textbooks, book reports.*

Answers

1. __________________
2. __________________
3. __________________
4. __________________
5. __________________
6. __________________
7. __________________
8. __________________
9. __________________
10. ________________
11. ________________
12. ________________
13. ________________
14. ________________
15. ________________

1) A biography about Abraham Lincoln.
2) The declaration of independence.
4) A website describing what the first World's Fair was like.
5) A Vietnam veteran talking about the war in Vietnam.
6) Abraham Lincoln's diary describing what he thought about the civil war.
7) A letter from a soldier describing World War 2.
8) An actor describing what it was like on the set of a movie.
10) A friend describing the snowstorm he was in last year.
11) A journal written by Lewis about his exploration of the Louisiana Purchase.
12) A journal article written about how Indians lived.
13) A classmate giving a report about World War 2.
14) A newspaper article from 1941 describing the attack on Pearl Harbor.
15) An autobiography* about Bill Clinton.

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1) A biography about the second president, John Adams.

2) A movie showing the life of George Washington.

3) A webpage talking about how life may have been in ancient Greece.

4) A friend telling you about his teacher last year.

5) A journal written by Sequoyah about how he created the cherokee alphabet.

6) A newspaper article from 2001 describing the great depression in the 1920's.

7) Another student reading a report about the tanks from World War 1.

8) An indian's journal describing what it was like to meet white settlers for the first time.

9) The United States Constitution.

10) An interview with a soldier about what it was like in Iraq.

11) A writer talking about their latest book.

12) A text book describing the civil war.

13) A radio recording of Walt Disney talking about Disney World.

14) Your parent describing how Pilgrims came to America.

15) An autobiography* about Rod Serling.

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**Answers**

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3. S

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5. P

6. P

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1) A friend giving a report about the Industrial Revolution's changes to America.

2) A biography about the sixteenth president, Abraham Lincoln.

3) A college professor describing how the pilgrims lived.

4) A blog written by an employee describing what it is like working at Apple.

5) Rosa Parks describing her role in the Montgomery Alabama bus boycotts.

6) A text book describing the 'the great war'.

7) Neil Armstrong giving an interview about being the first man to walk on the moon.

8) A newspaper article describing last night's storm.

9) A letter from John Smith about his meeting with the Powhatan Indians.

10) The movie Titanic.

11) The History Channel explaining how life was for a slave.

12) An autobiography* about Bill Gates.

13) A documentary about how 'Wizard of Oz' changed movies forever.

14) An indian writing about how his ancestors used to use all parts of the animals they hunted.

15) A reporter describing his time in Iraq.

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**Remind**

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1) A youtube video describing how the pyramids were built.

2) A text book describing the civil rights movement.

3) A news report about the opening of a power plant.

4) A cartoon showing how Pocahontas met John Smith.

5) An interview with Alexander Graham Bell about how he invented the telephone.

6) A short story describing Thomas Edison and Nikolia Tesla's 'electrical' battle.

7) An autobiography about the 40th president, Ronald Reagan.

8) A book describing Christopher Columbus sailing to America.

9) A play showing how Benjamin Franklin flew a kite during a lightning storm.

10) Anne Frank's diary describing her life during World War 2.

11) A journal by a cowboy about the cattle drives from Texas to Kansas.

12) A scientist explaining what it was like for Buzz Aldrin to walk on the moon.

13) A radio broadcast from the day the Soviet Union launched Sputnik.

14) A painting by Leonardo DaVinci.

15) A famous artist's painting of what cowboy life was probably like.

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