

Name _____ Class Per. _____

Which Source?

Directions: Column A contains the names of ten sources of information. Column B lists the types of information that can be found in these sources. In front of each item in column B, write the letter of the best source for that type of information.

A		B
A. almanac	_____	1. the pronunciation of the word "determination"
B. atlas	_____	2. a current article on water pollution
C. library catalog	_____	3. synonyms for the word "fantastic"
D. dictionary	_____	4. a map of North Carolina
E. encyclopedia	_____	5. specific information in a book with the page number(s) you'll find it on
F. the index of a book	_____	6. a book's call number
G. periodical (magazine Or newspaper)	_____	7. population and ZIP codes of major U.S. cities
H. the table of contents of a book	_____	8. the eating habits of the giraffe
I. thesaurus	_____	9. a book's publisher and the publisher's location
J. the title page of a book	_____	10. the major topics presented in a book

Distinguishing Between Primary and Secondary Sources

1. Primary sources are
 - a. the most important sources
 - b. the evidence left behind by participants
 - c. the first sources that a researcher should consult
 - d. sources written by the most important scholars
2. Which of the following is **not** a primary source?
 - a. memoirs and autobiographies
 - b. speeches
 - c. minutes from an organization or agency
 - d. artifacts
 - e. an encyclopedia
3. A recent analysis of the labor movement in 19th century England
 - a. is an example of a primary source
 - b. should be looked at last, if at all
 - c. is an example of a secondary source
 - d. is a first-hand account of this movement
4. Specialized encyclopedias, biographical dictionaries, and factbooks
 - a. should be consulted only after you draft an outline
 - b. will give you an historical overview
 - c. are too detailed to begin with
 - d. are primary sources
5. Materials written or produced by key participants
 - a. are biased and therefore not good sources
 - b. are secondary sources
 - c. will, in most cases, be primary sources
 - d. should be consulted only after you write an outline

You and your family have the opportunity to travel to Italy next summer, and your favorite artist is Michelangelo. You want to learn all about his paintings before you go.

6. Which of the following is a **primary** source?
 - a. A report or article critiquing Michelangelo's work
 - b. Your neighbor who has been to Italy and seen Michelangelo's work
 - c. The original artwork itself
 - d. Your art teacher

7. Which of the following is a good **secondary** source on Michelangelo's work?
- Michelangelo's writing about his artwork
 - The original artwork
 - A brochure on the artwork from the museum
 - A travel brochure

You are studying about the Civil War and how it came about. Your teacher has brought in many books, movies, and articles for you to study to bring to life what it was like during the Civil War.

8. Which **primary** source would help make the Civil War a "real life experience" to you and your friends?
- a picture of Civil War soldiers
 - a book about the battle of Gettysburg
 - an encyclopedia entry on teenaged soldiers of the Civil War
 - the diary of a Civil War soldier
9. Which **secondary** source might you use to learn more about the life of a Civil War soldier?
- Abraham Lincoln's biography
 - Interviews of descendants of Civil War soldiers
 - A biography of a Civil War soldier
 - A book about the Emancipation Proclamation

It is extremely important that we make sure the information we use is correct and reliable.

10. From the list below, which source is the most reliable and accurate?
- a person who is angry at his neighbors and community leaders
 - a person who is running for political office
 - a person who shows bias and prejudice against those who are different than he is
 - a person who is objective and fair with all people
11. Which of the following would be the most reliable source for a report you are writing on the effectiveness and side effects of different diet plans?
- Journals articles
 - A science book
 - Wikipedia
 - A textbook
 - A website
 - TV programs

Where might you find information to write a report on:

Guatamala _____

Drug use in sports _____

Biomedical Technology _____

Terrorism _____

Cell phones in school _____

