Primary and Secondary Sources



What Are Primary Sources?

The actual accounts of events or the original documents

- Diaries
- Letters
- Journals
- Speeches
- Interviews
- Photographs
- Audio and Video Recordings

- Original literary or theatrical works
- Original advertisements
- Magazine and Newspaper Articles (as long as they are written soon after the fact and not as historical accounts)

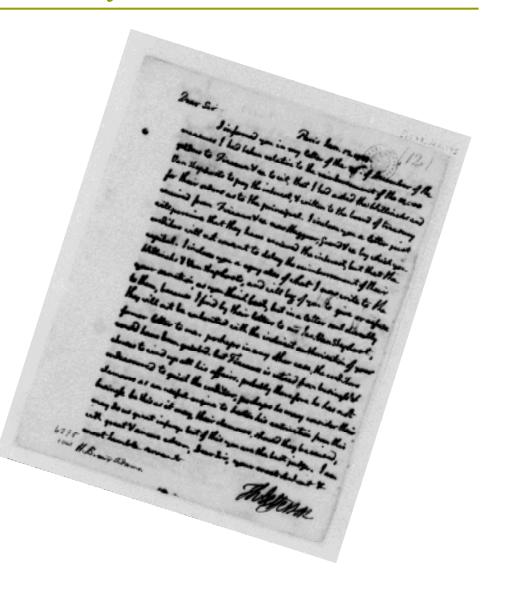
Examples of Primary Sources



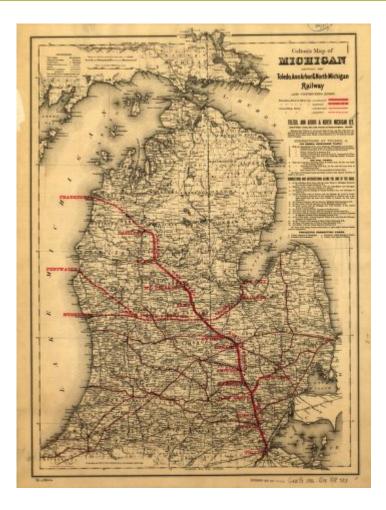
This is an original advertisement for Lux Soap.

Examples of Primary Sources

This is an original letter written by Thomas Jefferson to John Adams in 1788.



Examples of Primary Sources



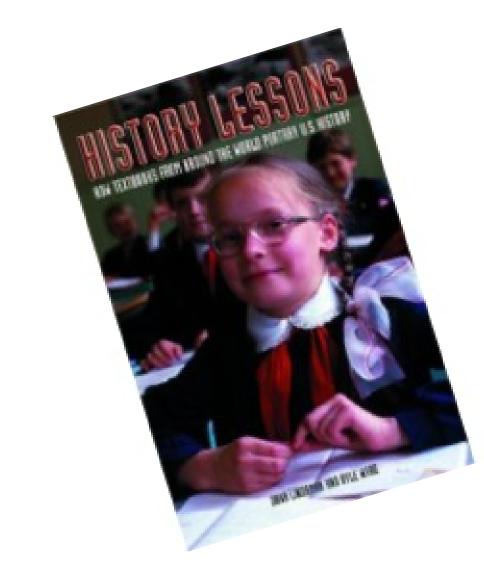
Map of Michigan showing the Toledo, Ann Arbor, & North Michigan Railway and connecting lines.

What Are Secondary Sources?

They interpret the primary sources.

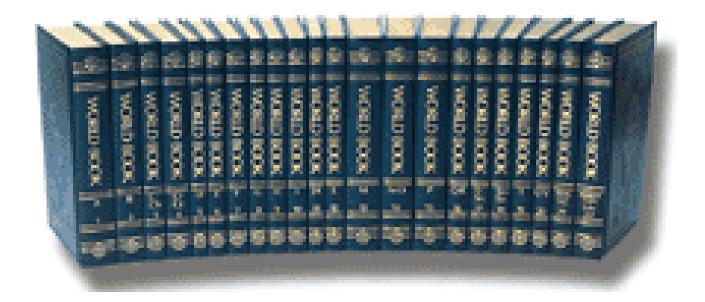
- Text Books
- Encyclopedias
- Dictionaries
- Books that interpret history
- Articles that interpret history

Examples of Secondary Sources



A text book is a secondary source written about the primary sources.

Examples of Secondary Sources



World Book Encyclopedias are secondary sources of information.

Think About It

Why do you think historians use both primary and secondary sources?

How do you think primary sources can be used?

Resources



Library of Congress American Memory Collection Lever Bros. Advertisement for Lux Laundry Flakes Digital ID ncdeaa L0009 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.award/ncdeaa.L0009 http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/guery/D?eaa:6:./temp/~ammem 7jOE::



Library of Congress American Memory Collection The Thomas Jefferson Papers Series 1. General Correspondence. 1651-1827 Thomas Jefferson to John Adams, January 13, 1788, Included Copy of Thomas Jefferson Letter to Hogguer, Grand, & Company, same date



Library of Congress American Memory Collection Map Collection DIGITAL ID: g4111p rr005830 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4111p.rr005830 http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/guery/D?gmd:1:./temp/~ammem_RS0I::@@@mdb=gmd,klpmap,ww2map



History text Graphic http://www.amazon.com/History-Lessons-Textbooks-Around-Portray/dp/1595580824/ref=sr 1 5?ie=UTF8&s=books&gid=1216832981&sr=1-5



World Book Graphic http://store.worldbook.com/wb/product.asp?sku=10029

Social Studies Grade Level Content Expectation

3-H3.02 Explain how historians use primary and secondary resources to answer questions about the past.