

Evaluating Abraham Lincoln

Directions: Complete this chart after reviewing the various primary sources about Abraham Lincoln. Pick two sources, one that embodies the symbolic or legendary Abraham Lincoln and one that represents the real and complex man. Answer the questions based on your own opinions and what you read of your classmates' opinions.

Discussion Question	Document 1, "Legendary" Lincoln: _____	Document 2, "Real" Lincoln: _____
Sourcing: Who made this source? Where did it come from?		
Contextualizing: Imagine the setting around this document. How does that world differ from our own? What does this source tell you about that world?		
Close Reading: What does this document tell you about Abraham Lincoln? Make a brief list of details.		
Close Reading: What is the tone of this document? Is it biased? In what way?		
Corroborating: Does this document tell you something new about Lincoln or reinforce what you already knew? Does it contradict something you already knew?		
Evaluation: Does this document change your opinion of Abraham Lincoln? Why or why not?		

Put it all together: On a separate sheet of paper, write a brief paragraph describing the "real" Abraham Lincoln. Remember: the "legendary" Abraham Lincoln is not necessarily fictional. Your paragraph should include details from many documents—just be sure to contextualize where they came from.