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| **Primary and Secondary Sources**  **Name:**  C:\Documents and Settings\jcox\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\2OBOP6Y7\MC900237158[1].wmf |

Nonfiction writing comes from a variety of sources. The source must be considered to determine the reliability and accuracy of information.

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| **Primary Source:** An original source that shares **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** knowledge and the information can be traced no further than its author.  Examples: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Secondary Source:** A source that shares information that has been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, compiled, summarized, and maybe even \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from its original source. The information can be traced beyond its author to at least one or more sources.  Examples: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**Directions: Identify the following examples as primary or secondary sources and explain how you know!**

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| **Information** | **Primary or Secondary Source?** | **Explanation** | |
| Personal interview with a sports trainer |  |  | |
| An edition of The News and Observer |  |  | |
| Encyclopedia entry about football |  |  | |
| A journal entry about a winning game |  |  | |
| A memoir written by a Holocaust survivor |  |  | |
| A biography about a famous singer |  |  | |
| An autobiography written by a famous painter |  |  | |
| A survey about favorite sports |  |  | |
| An artifact in the Titanic museum |  |  | |
| A letter from the president |  |  | |
| A museum display with uniforms and weapons from the Civil War |  | C:\Documents and Settings\jcox\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\2OBOP6Y7\MC900384338[1].wmf | |
| **Consider the Source!**  C:\Documents and Settings\jcox\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\U8SUHZD1\MC900442050[1].wmf  C:\Documents and Settings\jcox\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\U8SUHZD1\MC900442050[1].wmf | | |

**Nonfiction text must be identified as a primary or secondary source to determine the reliability and accuracy of the information provided. Read the following examples to identify the type of source and explore its reliability.**

**Source A**

**August 30th, 1999, was a day I shall remember all my life. It was when I first set foot on the seventh grade hall. It was an exciting first day of a year that would prove to be full of possibility and surprise. I was eligible to play football in seventh grade, rather than managing equipment on the sidelines as I had done last year. Also, we hear the news that we would all receive our own full-length locker. Whew! No more shoving books and gear into a small hole in the wall! But, even better was that we could sit where we wanted in the cafeteria. It may sound small and meaningless, but to me and my group of friends, this meant that we were on the verge of adulthood. It meant mingling with the eighth graders and choosing our circle of friends.**

**Source B**

**Middle school is the next step after elementary school. Students attend middle school during sixth, seventh, and eighth grade. During sixth grade, students learn about the school and get used to lockers and changing classes. There are more strict rules for sixth graders such as assigned seats in the cafeteria. In seventh and eighth grade, students are allowed to choose their seats in the cafeteria. They are also eligible to try out for sports, which means more responsibility. Students must maintain good grades and excellent behavior in school in order to be on a sports team. After middle school, students move on to high school.**

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| **Evaluating Sources** | **Source A** | **Source B** |
| Primary or Secondary? Explain. |  |  |
| Is the source an expert? |  |  |
| Is the information complete? |  |  |
| What evidence is there of bias (opinion; favoring one thing or another)? |  |  |
| What evidence is there of loaded words/phrases (words with strong emotion)? |  |  |