

Historical Thinking Exercise

Primary & Secondary Sources

15pts

Name: _____

Period: _____

Directions: 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.

Examples: Diaries, speeches, letters, official records, autobiographies.

A **Secondary Source** is information from somewhere else or by a person not directly involved in the event.

Examples: Encyclopedias, textbooks, documentaries, internet articles

- 1) A play showing how Benjamin Franklin flew a kite during a lightning storm.
- 2) A short story describing Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla's 'electrical' battle.
- 3) Anne Frank's diary describing her life during World War 2.
- 4) A cartoon showing how Moses brought the people of Israel out of Egypt.
- 5) A text book describing the rise of the Roman Republic.
- 6) A news report about the opening of a power plant.
- 7) A scientist explaining what it was like for Neil Armstrong to walk on the moon.
- 8) A YouTube video describing how the pyramids were built.
- 9) An interview with Alexander Graham Bell about how he invented the telephone.
- 10) A radio broadcast from the day the Soviet Union launched the satellite Sputnik.
- 11) An autobiography about Napoleon Bonaparte.
- 12) A diary from Christopher Columbus describing his journeys in sailing to America.
- 13) An artist's painting showing what life was like in the Stone Age times.
- 14) A scroll from Greece describing food shortages in the city of Athens.
- 15) The United States Constitution.

ANSWERS

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