

HISTORICAL SOURCES REFERENCE POSTER

Evidence from the past helps us ask questions, find answers,
and understand change over time.

TYPES OF HISTORICAL SOURCES

PRIMARY SOURCES

Created at the time by people who lived through the event.



WRITTEN

Letters, diaries, newspapers, speeches



PHOTOGRAPHS

Photos, illustrations, posters



OBJECTS

Tools, clothing, medals, toys, artifacts



AUDIO/VISUAL

Recordings, videos, films, interviews

SECONDARY SOURCES

Created after the event by people who did not experience it.



BOOKS & ARTICLES

Textbooks, biographies, journal articles



WEBSITES & MEDIA

Documentaries, websites, news reports

HOW TO ANALYSE A HISTORICAL SOURCE

1

ORIGIN



Who created it?
When?
Where?

2

PURPOSE



Why was it made?
What was it meant to do?

3

CONTENT



What information does it tell us?
What details are important?

4

PERSPECTIVE



Whose point of view is shown?

5

RELIABILITY



Is it trustworthy?
How do you know?

6

USEFULNESS



How does this source help answer my question?

CHECK YOUR SOURCE

- Is it a primary or secondary source?
- Who created it and why?
- What is the main message?
- Is there any bias or opinion?
- Does it match other sources?
- How useful is it for my inquiry?

USE SOURCES TO...

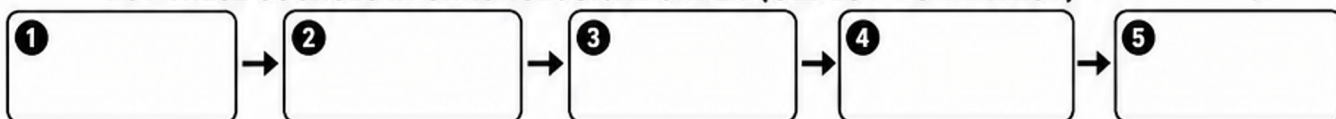
- Ask questions
- Find evidence
- Compare information
- Identify change and continuity
- Build an explanation

SOURCE SORTER

Is it **PRIMARY** or **SECONDARY**?

PRIMARY Created at the time	SECONDARY Created after the time

PUT THESE SOURCES IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER (OLDEST TO NEWEST)



GOOD HISTORIANS USE MANY SOURCES, ASK QUESTIONS, AND CHECK THEIR IDEAS.