Using Primary & Secondary Sources (Video)

Check your knowledge about this topic by answering these questions.

1. When you use firsthand accounts -- like diaries, letters, speeches, or interviews -- you are using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

13 points

* Primary sources
* Secondary sources
* Internet sources
* Accurate sources

2. An actual item like a Native American willow basket, an artist’s painting, or a newspaper article written when something happened can be considered a primary source. True or false?

11 points

* True
* False

3. When you use an expert’s summary, analysis, discussion, or review of data or accounts of what happened, you are using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

13 points

* Primary sources
* Secondary sources
* Internet sources
* Accurate sources

4. Which of these are primary sources?

Mark all that are correct.

13 points

* Diary of a Revolutionary War soldier
* Movie that describes the Revolutionary War
* Recent magazine article that shares new information found about the Revolutionary War
* Newspaper article written about the Revolutionary War in 1775

5. Which of these are secondary sources?

Mark all that are correct.

13 points

* Vincent van Gogh’s painting, Starry Night
* Book about Vincent van Gogh’s painting style
* Letter written by Vincent van Gogh
* Biography about Vincent van Gogh

6. There are many reasons to use secondary sources. Which of these statements about using secondary sources is NOT correct?

13 points

* Use secondary sources to gather background information on a topic.
* Use secondary sources to see what others who studied a topic have learned   
  about it.
* Use secondary sources to double check the accuracy of sources you used in your research paper.
* Use secondary sources to read an expert’s analysis or interpretation of a work.

7. There are many reasons to use primary sources. Which of these statements about primary sources is NOT correct?

13 points

* Use primary sources to examine something firsthand.
* Use primary sources to analyze data for yourself.
* Use primary sources to personally reflect on a work of art.
* Use primary sources to read a review of an author’s work.

8. Good researchers do NOT use primary sources together with secondary sources in their research. True or false?

11 points

* True
* False