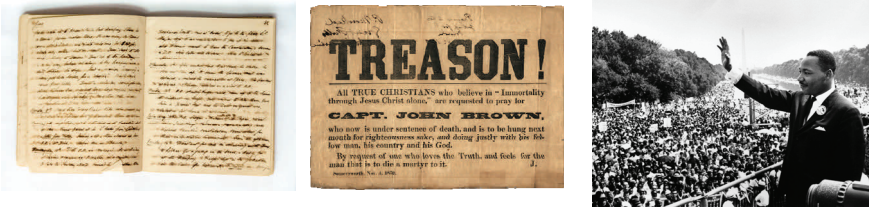


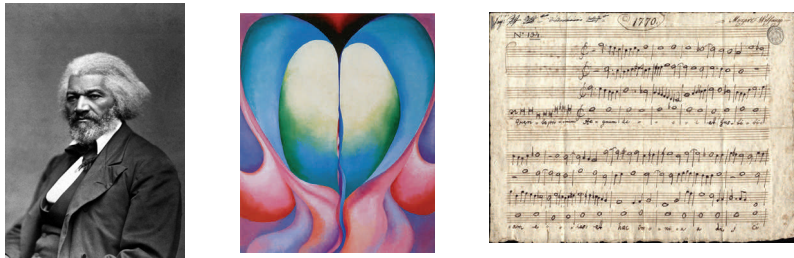
Primary Sources

Are original documents or objects, that have been left behind by participants or observers. Make a personal connection to the past.

Examples: Diaries, speeches, manuscripts, letters, wills, interviews, autobiographies, official records, news film footage, government documents.



Examples of creative works: Poetry, drama, novels, music, art, photographs



Examples of relics or artifacts: Weavings, pottery, furniture



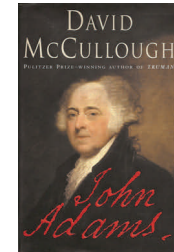
Original research articles published in journals may also be considered a primary source if they follow the following criteria: are *peer-reviewed*, title is a *brief statement* of a research project, topic has a *limited focus*, and contain an *abstract*, an *introduction*, *methods and results*, *data in figures and tables*, and a *discussion*.

Secondary Sources

Interpret and analyze primary sources; restate or reuse information. Often reference original documents. More readily available than primary sources.

Examples: Textbooks, magazine articles, newspaper articles, histories, criticisms, encyclopedias, dictionaries, atlases, biographies.

Biographical account
written by historian



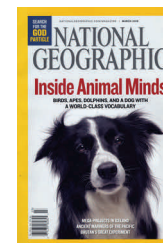
Movie about life of
Johnny Cash



Literary
Criticism



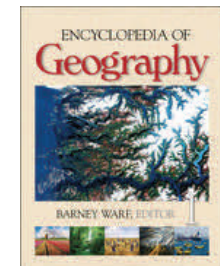
Magazine article



Newspaper article



Encyclopedia



Criteria to identify secondary articles: Are *not* peer-reviewed, and topics are of popular interest and are generally broad overviews. They *do not* contain an abstract, introduction, methods and results, data in figures and tables, or a discussion. A journal article that synthesizes information from other studies but does not advance an original idea is a secondary source.

Distinguishing between Popular Magazines, Trade Journals, and Scholarly Journals

	Popular Magazine	Trade Journal	Scholarly Journal
Criteria			
Content: In-depth research with a narrow focus			✓
Authors: Scholars or experts in a field of research		✓	✓
Audience: Scholars, researchers, students, practitioners		✓	✓
Language: Specialized vocabulary, and subject-specific jargon		✓	✓
Layout/Organization: Structured, often including abstract, introduction, methods, data, discussion, and bibliography			✓
Peer-review/editing: Reviewed by experts in field (peers) and edited for content, format, accuracy			✓
References: Requires citation of sources so that quotations and facts can be verified.			✓