Primary and Secondary Sources

Grade 3 Social Studies Worksheet - Challenge Me

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

1. Which question could the fair photograph answer best?

Source A

Magazine article

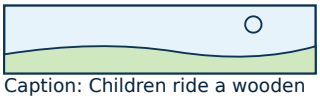
Written in 2012

The town fair has been held every summer since 1950.

Source B

Fair photograph

Taken at the town fair, 1952



Caption: Children ride a wooden merry-go-round.

Why did the town start a fair?
Who runs the fair today?
How many years has the fair been held?
What rides did children use in 1952?

2. The museum article says the school closed in 1950. Why can't Ella's 1925 diary tell us that?

Source A

Ella's diary

Written by Ella, a student, in 1925

We sat on long benches. Our room had one wood stove.

Source B

Museum article

Written in 2015

The old school had one room. It closed in 1950.

It was written after 1950.
Ella did not like the school.
It was written before the school closed.
Diaries are never true.

3. Which source would best show how the bridge was built?

Source A

Newspaper article

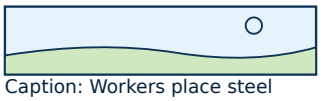
Written after the bridge opened

The new bridge helps people cross the river faster.

Source B

Construction photograph

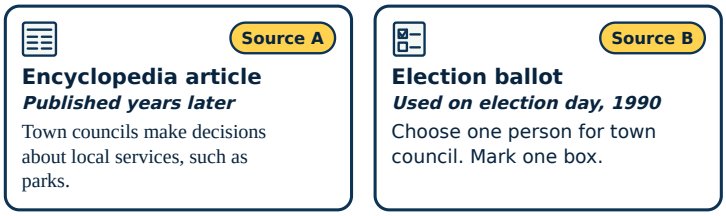
Taken while the bridge was being built



Caption: Workers place steel beams over the river.

the newspaper article
the construction photograph
a 2020 travel guide
a bridge map from today

4. Why might a historian use both the ballot and the encyclopedia article?



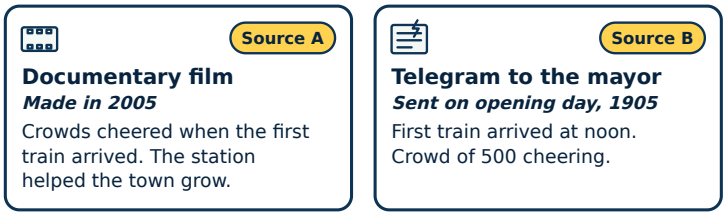
Both were written much later.
Both were used on election day.
The ballot explains what councils do.
One shows the real vote; one explains councils.

5. The program says 'Planting starts at 10.' What does this tell a historian?



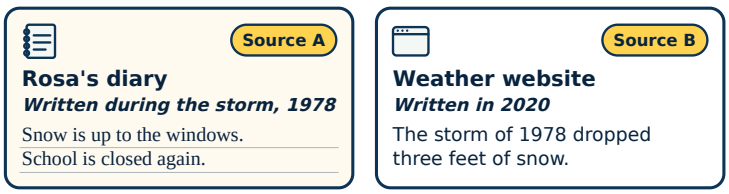
what was planned for opening day
why neighbors built the garden
how the garden looks today
who wrote the history book

6. The film was made 100 years after the station opened. What kind of source is it, and why?



primary, because it shows the station
secondary, because it is about trains
secondary, because it was made long after
primary, because it is a film

7. Rosa wrote, 'School is closed again.' What does the word again tell us?



School had closed before in that storm.
The snow had already melted.
This was the first snow day.
Rosa liked school very much.

8. What can Sam's letter tell us that the library book cannot?

Source A

Sam's letter

Written the day after the flood, 1936

Water came up to our porch. We moved to Aunt May's house.

Source B

Library book about floods

Written in 2010

In 1936, a flood covered many towns along the river.

what the flood was like for one family
how many towns the flood covered
what happened years after the flood
why rivers flood in spring

9. Which source would best tell how many towns flooded in 1936?

Source A

Library book about floods

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In 1936, a flood covered many towns along the river.

Source B

Sam's letter

Written the day after the flood, 1936

Water came up to our porch. We moved to Aunt May's house.

a diary from one farm
the library book about floods
Sam's letter
a photo of Sam's porch

10. What do the telegram and the film both say?

Source A

Telegram to the mayor

Sent on opening day, 1905

First train arrived at noon. Crowd of 500 cheering.

Source B

Documentary film

Made in 2005

Crowds cheered when the first train arrived. The station helped the town grow.

The first train arrived at noon.
The town grew for 100 years.
People cheered when the first train came.
Exactly 500 people came.

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Social Studies Worksheet - Challenge Me

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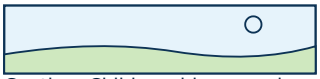
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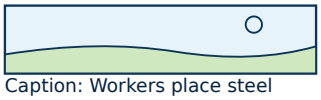
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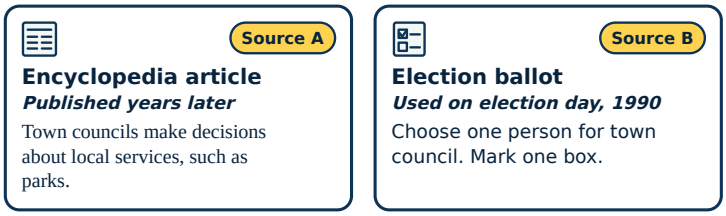
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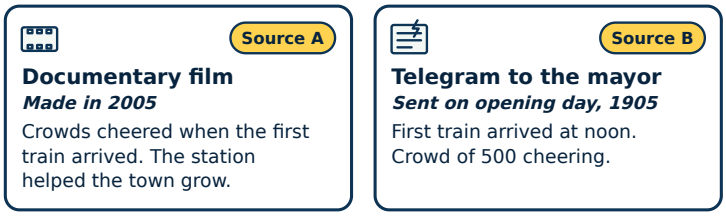
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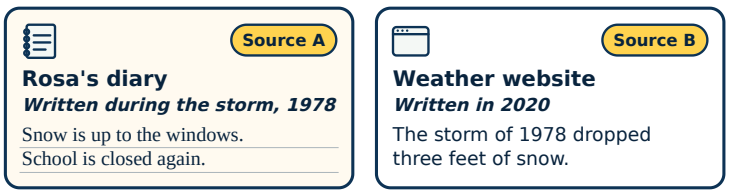
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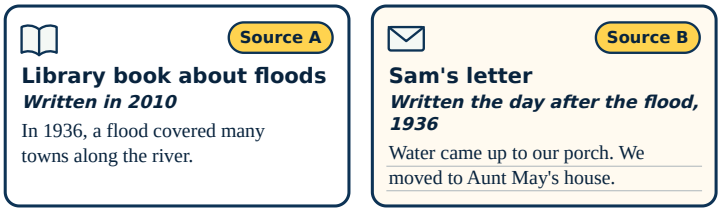
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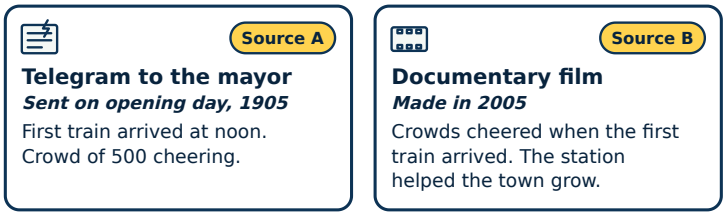
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