



Second day of class – Sorting sources

9-12 Grades Modern World History

This activity is sponsored in part by the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Eastern Region Program, coordinated by Waynesburg University.

45-60 minutes

Description of activity: Students learn the difference between primary and secondary sources, identify sources as primary or secondary, and create a visual timeline around their classroom or down the hallway using sources relevant to this course.

Focus Question: What types of societies and developments will we be studying this year? Is there anything that might be of interest to me? What are the differences between primary and secondary sources? How do these images fit together chronologically?

Context: This will be used on the second day of class.

Objectives: Students will learn the basic difference between primary and secondary sources and build a timeline using relevant source material.

Assessment: Students will share their understanding of primary and secondary sources and working together will build a visual timeline. The teacher should choose four students who appear hesitant to get involved with sorting out the timeline to check for accuracy (along assigned sections/general timeframes) using a teacher copy of the background information for all sources.

#### Activity Details

Primary Sources: use the same sources from Connecting with Primary Sources

Procedure: Students should choose a source with which to work. The teacher will ask the class for a definition of a primary source. During the discussion, it should be mentioned that the crucial difference between the two is that a primary source is one that originates from the time period being studied.

The second portion of the class will be devoted to students creating a visual timeline using the sources provided. It might be best for students to be divided into five groups - four groups will curate a given period of the time line. Members of the remaining group can be given the task of helping to supervise each portion of the timeline.

What you will need before implementing: You will need color copies of every document and description information on the back.