Is it a Primary or Secondary Source?

Characteristics of Primary Sources

- Raw
- Incomplete
- Hard to access
- First-hand evidence/account
- Created during/shortly after an event
- Not necessarily intended for historical research

Examples of Primary Sources:

- Photos, art, letters, diaries,
- Oral histories, social media posts,
- autobiographies/memoirs, many more!

Characteristics of Secondary Sources

- Analyzes and interprets primary sources
- Second-hand account of an historical event
- Interprets creative work
- Can be digital/digitized
- Can be biased
- Can include false info

Examples of Secondary Sources:

- Text books, scholarly articles,
- Biographies (not written first hand), literary criticism,
- histories