Essential Questions:
1. What are primary sources?
2. What are secondary sources?
3. What can we learn about history when looking at primary sources?
4. What can we learn about history by looking at primary sources?
Who is the Real Mr. Darrh?

Define the following terms:

1. Artifact - an object, such as a tool, that helps archaeologists learn about the people who used the object.

2. Primary Source -

3. Secondary Source -

4. Theory -

Examine your primary source(s). Pay close attention to dates, names, places and other information that might help you learn something about me. Describe your primary source(s) on the lines below. If you have more than one source, make sure you describe all of the sources you were given.
Formulate a theory. Using your primary source(s), come up with a theory about me. Your theory should explain a significant fact about my life (where did I grow up? where did I go to school?)

Present your theory and evidence. You will need to present your theory to the class. During your presentation you will need to use your primary source(s) as evidence to prove that your theory is true.

Primary Source Homework Assignment. Imagine you become President of the United States one day. Historians are working to write your biography and are interested in your childhood. They need to gather primary sources to come up with theories about what kind of childhood you had. Imagine that the historians were able to visit your room and pick a primary source that best illustrates what kind of person you are. What document would they pick? What would the primary source tell them about you? Bring in this primary source to share with the class. Be sure to ask your parents if you are bringing in a valuable document. Complete the Student Primary Source worksheet in addition to bringing in the document.
Who is the REAL _______________?
(fill in your name on the line)

1. Describe your primary source(s). What is your primary source? When did you acquire this document? How did you acquire this document?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. Explain the importance of your primary source(s). Why is this document important to you? What could historians learn about you by looking at this document?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

3. Get ready to be challenged! If a historian wanted to learn about the major events of the summer, what primary sources would they examine? (Major events are known to most Americans, they are discussed in newspapers and have a large impact.) Make sure you identify the specific event that historian might be studying. Come up with two primary sources and two specific events.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Source</th>
<th>Specific Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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</table>
Partner Primary Source Worksheet

Who is the REAL [NAME]?
(write your partner's name here)

Examine your partner's primary source(s). Pay close attention to dates, names, places and other information that might help you learn something about your partner. Describe your primary source(s) on the lines below. If your partner brought in more than one source, make sure you describe all of the sources you were given.

_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________

Formulate a theory. Using your primary source(s), come up with a theory about your partner.
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
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Present your theory and evidence. You will need to present your theory to the class. During your presentation you will need to use your primary source(s) as evidence to prove that your theory is true.

_________________________________________________________________________________________
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Who Fired the First Shot??

Early on a bright and sunny April morning in 1775, a group of American shopkeepers and farmers exchanged shots with British redcoats in Lexington, Massachusetts. It was the first "battle" of the American Revolution.

Whenever a fight starts, someone is bound to ask, "Who started it?" or "Who is to blame?" Many people have asked these questions about the fight at Lexington in 1775. They want to know who fired the first shot—the British or the Americans. You are going to be history detectives, looking at evidence to try to answer this question.

Directions: Read the account about the first battle you group was assigned. Answer the questions that follow the account.¹

Set #1: Textbooks

Textbook #1

It is sunrise. When the first rays shine upon the green in Lexington, they fall on fifty or sixty minutemen, with a brave old soldier just coming in sight along the road... "Stand your ground. Don’t fire unless you are fired upon," says Captain Parker to the minutemen; "but," and I fancy his face grows stern as he speaks, "if they want a war, it may as well begin here." The redcoats are close at hand, with Major Pitcairn at their head. "Disperse, ye rebels, disperse," he cried. The minutemen stand firm. Angrily Pitcairn repeats his command, and follows it by an order to his men to fire. They hesitate. The Major fires his own pistol. Then the muskets of the regulars ring out, and the minutemen are beginning to return the shots. But Parker orders them back—the fight is too unequal. Eight men are killed, and ten are wounded. The war has begun.

1. Identify the kind of source you have (textbook, statement, newspaper, etc.).

2. Is your source primary or secondary?

3. According to your source, who should be blamed for firing the first shot? Explain your answer.

4. Rate your source’s reliability on a scale of 1 to 10. Explain your decision.

¹ All sources from: Selected Case Studies in American History
Set #1: Textbooks

Textbook #2

Samuel Adams and Hancock made their escape before the British reached Lexington. Other Americans, however, were on the village common awaiting the British. About seventy minutemen were ready to dispute the passage of the British soldiers. The minutemen did not withdraw until they were fired upon and eight of their number killed. Thus began the War of American independence.

1. Identify the kind of source you have (textbook, statement, newspaper, etc.). ____________________

2. Is your source primary or secondary? ____________________

3. According to your source, who should be blamed for firing the first shot? Explain your answer ____________________

4. Rate your source’s reliability on a scale of 1 to 10. _____________ Explain your decision. ____________________
Set #1: Textbooks

Textbook #3

At daybreak of April 15 the British reached Lexington, where they were confronted by about sixty minutemen. Their commander, Captain Parker, told his men: “Don’t fire unless you are fired upon; but if they want a war, let it begin here.” A shot was fired, but from which side is not certain; then came a volley from the British soldiers which killed eight men and wounded many others. Unable to oppose a force that outnumbered them ten to one, the minutemen fell back in confusion.

1. Identify the kind of source you have (textbook, statement, newspaper, etc.).

2. Is your source primary or secondary?

3. According to your source, who should be blamed for firing the first shot? Explain your answer.

4. Rate your source’s reliability on a scale of 1 to 10. Explain your decision.
Textbook #4

Pitcairn reached Lexington at sunrise and found himself confronted by some forty minutemen under Captain John Parker. With an oath he called upon them to disperse, but they stood motionless as a wall, and he ordered his men to fire. (Note: there are different statements as to the opening shots.) The volley laid seven of the patriots dead and ten wounded upon the village green. Parker was greatly outnumbered and after making a feeble resistance, ordered his men to retire.

1. Identify the kind of source you have (textbook, statement, newspaper, etc.).

2. Is your source primary or secondary?

3. According to your source, who should be blamed for firing the first shot? Explain your answer

4. Rate your source’s reliability on a scale of 1 to 10. Explain your decision.
Set #2: Newspapers

Newspaper #1
*The Salem Gazette* (Salem, Massachusetts), April 25, 1775

At Lexington, six miles below Concord, a company of militia, of about one hundred men, mustered near the Meeting-House; the British troops came in sight of them just before sunrise; and running, with a few rows of them, the Commanding British Officers accosted the Militia in words to this effect: “Disperse, you rebels – throw down your arms and disperse”, upon which the Troops huzzaed, and immediately one or two British officers discharged their pistols, which were instantaneously followed by the firing of four or five of the soldiers, and then there seemed to be a general discharge from the whole body; eight of our men were killed and nine wounded...

1. Identify the kind of source you have (textbook, statement, newspaper, etc.). ______________________

2. Is your source primary or secondary? ______________________

3. According to your source, who should be blamed for firing the first shot? Explain your answer

   ______________________________________________________________________________________

4. Rate your source’s reliability on a scale of 1 to 10. ____________ Explain your decision.

   ______________________________________________________________________________________
Lieutenant-Colonel Smith finding, after he had advanced some miles on his march, that the country had been alarmed by firing of guns and ringing of bells, dispatched six companies of light infantry, in order to secure two bridges on different roads beyond Concord, who upon their arrival at Lexington, found a body of the country people (colonists) under arms, on a green close to the road; and upon their arrival the King’s Troops marched up to them, in order to inquire the reason for their being so assembled, they went off in great confusion, and several guns were fired upon the King’s Troops from behind a stone wall, and also from the meeting-house and other houses, by which one man was wounded and Major Pitcairn’s horse shot in two places. In consequence of this attack by the rebels, the troops returned the fire and killed several of them...

1. Identify the kind of source you have (textbook, statement, newspaper, etc.).

2. Is your source primary or secondary?

3. According to your source, who should be blamed for firing the first shot? Explain your answer.

4. Rate your source’s reliability on a scale of 1 to 10. Explain your decision.
Set #3 Diaries and Statements

Statement #1
Statement of Lieutenant Thornton Gould, April 25, 1775, who was wounded and captured in the fighting of April 19, and was a prisoner when he made this statement for the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts.

On our arrival at Lexington, we saw a body of Provincial Troops armed, to the number of about sixty or seventy men, on our arrival they dispersed, and soon after firing began, but which party fired first, I cannot exactly say, as our troops rushed on shouting and huzzaing previous to the firing, which was continued by our troops as long as any of the provincials (colonists) were to be seen...

1. Identify the kind of source you have (textbook, statement, newspaper, etc.).
2. Is your source primary or secondary?
3. According to your source, who should be blamed for firing the first shot? Explain your answer.
4. Rate your source's reliability on a scale of 1 to 10. Explain your decision.
Statement #2
Account written by a British officer and found in Boston when the British left the town, but was not printed until several years later.

The troops received no interruption in their march until they arrived in Lexington, a town eleven miles from Boston, where there were about 150 rebels, the light infantry who marched in front halted, and Major Pitcairn came up immediately and cried out to the rebels to throw down their arms and disperse, which they did not do; he called out a second time, but to no purpose, upon which he ordered our light-infantry to advance and disarm them, which they were doing, when one of the rebels fired a shot, our soldiers returned the fired and killed some fourteen of them; there was only one of the 10th light-infantry who received a shot through his leg; some of them got into the church and fired from it, but were soon driven out...

1. Identify the kind of source you have (textbook, statement, newspaper, etc.).

2. Is your source primary or secondary?

3. According to your source, who should be blamed for firing the first shot? Explain your answer.

4. Rate your source’s reliability on a scale of 1 to 10. Explain your decision.

13
Set #3 Diaries and Statements

Statement #3
From the diary of another British officer, Lieutenant John Barker, April 19, 1775, telling how the troops approached Lexington.

At 5’oclock we arrived there and saw a number of people. I believe between 200 and 300 formed a common in the middle of town; we still continued advancing, keeping prepared against attack, tho’ without intending to attack them; but on our coming near them they fired one or two shots, upon which our men without any orders rushed in upon them; fired and put ‘em to flight; several of them were killed, we could not tell how many, because they got behind walls and into the woods; we had a man of 10th light infantry wounded, no one else was hurt. We then formed on the Common, but with some difficulty, the men were so wild they did not hear orders.

1. Identify the kind of source you have (textbook, statement, newspaper, etc.).

2. Is your source primary or secondary?

3. According to your source, who should be blamed for firing the first shot? Explain your answer.

4. Rate your source’s reliability on a scale of 1 to 10. Explain your decision.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who should be blamed for firing the first shot?</th>
<th>Textbooks</th>
<th>Newspaper #1</th>
<th>Newspaper #2</th>
<th>Statement #1</th>
<th>Statement #2</th>
<th>Statement #3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How reliable is this source?</td>
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</table>

1. Who do you believe fired the first shot?

2. Can you know with COMPLETE certainty who fired the first shot? Why or why not?

3. Why is it difficult for historians to learn what happened in the middle of a battle?
Who Fired that Shot???

Historians use primary and secondary sources to make theories about historical events. You looked at several sources about who fired the first shot of the American Revolution. For homework, you are going to come up with a theory about who fired the first shot of the American Revolution - the Americans or the British. You will need to write one paragraph to support one of the following statements. The statement that you chose should be your topic sentence (the first sentence of your paragraph). You should only pick one of the following sentences:

- The British fired the shot that started the American Revolution
- The Americans fired the shot that started the American Revolution.
- There is not enough reliable evidence to decide who fired the first shot of the American Revolution.

Your paragraph must...

- Include 1 topic sentence from the choices above
- Include a minimum of 3 supporting sentences
- Include 1 concluding sentence
- Include 5 sentences in total
- Include one piece of evidence (QUOTATION) from the "Who Fired that Shot?" pages in the historical sources packet.
- Be handed in on ____________________.

Here is an example of how to use a quotation in your writing:

According to a statement of a British soldier, "when one of the rebels fired a shot, our soldiers returned the fired and killed some fourteen of them."
Reading Extra Credit

In an effort to encourage you to read more, I offer you the following extra credit opportunity. In addition to your academic readings, you may opt to read and report on a historical fiction work or biography. The novel must concern a topic we will study this school year. You may NOT select any novel you will read or have read for any academic class. **Before you begin, I must approve the book!!!!!!**

Your task would be to read the work and report on it to the class. You must give an oral presentation to the class in an attempt to MOTIVATE your peers to read the book. You will also be required to write a one to two page paper, which includes a plot summary, an explanation of how the work connects to our study of US history, and what you learned about the historical period.

You may complete this assignment once for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th marking periods.

If you complete this rewarding endeavor you will earn a grade equivalent to a test score. This is a great opportunity, don't miss out on it!

Due Dates:

1st Marking Period: __________

2nd Marking Period: __________

3rd Marking Period: __________

4th Marking Period: __________