

Types of Sources

Historians use sources to answer questions about the past & support their conclusions.

1

CONTEMPORARY SOURCE

First-hand original information from the time period.

Examples:

diaries, letters, photographs, artefacts, audio & video recordings



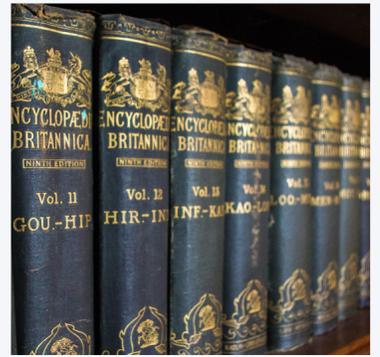
2

INTERPRETATIONS

An attempt to portray and/or make meaning of the past event using evidence.

Examples:

textbooks, TV programmes, plays & encyclopaedias



3

ORAL SOURCE

Original spoken accounts of the past event.

Examples:

speeches, songs, audio recordings & interviews



4

VISUAL SOURCE

Image of the event which can be seen.

Examples:

paintings, photographs, maps & sculptures



5

WRITTEN SOURCE

Written account or record of the past event.

Examples:

legal documents, newspaper articles, letters, poetry & diaries.



6

PHYSICAL SOURCE

Original artefacts from the past event.

Examples:

equipment, clothing, pottery & jewels

