

Name _____

Evaluating Sources

1. Historical Question: Who was present at the signing of the Declaration of Independence?

Source 1: Hollywood movie about the American Revolution made 2001.

Source 2: Book written by a famous historian who is an expert on the American Revolution, published in 1999.

Which do you trust more? Why?

2. Historical Question: What was slavery like in South Carolina?

Source 1: Interview with former slave in 1936. The interviewer is a black man collecting oral histories for the Federal Writers' Project.

Source 2: Interview with former slave in 1936. The interviewer is a white woman collecting oral histories for the Federal Writers' Project.

Which do you trust more? Why?

3. Historical Question: What was the layout of the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz?

Source 1: Interview with 80 year-old Holocaust survivor in 1985.

Source 2: Map of concentration camp found in Nazi files.

Which do you trust more? Why?

4. Historical Question: Why were Japanese Americans put in internment camps during WWII?

Source 1: Government film explaining internment from 1942.

Source 2: Government report on Japanese Internment from 1983 based on declassified government documents.

Which do you trust more? Why?

5. Historical Question: Did American soldiers commit atrocities during the Vietnam War in 1969?

Source 1: Sworn testimony by American Sergeant in Congressional hearings in 1969.

Source 2: Speech by American General touring the United States in 1969.

Which do you trust more? Why?

6. Historical Question: What happened at the Battle of Little Bighorn?

Source 1: High school history textbook from 1985.

Source 2: Newspaper account from the day after the battle in June 1876.

Which do you trust more? Why?