

Name: _____ Date: _____

Analyzing Primary Sources about George Washington & Writing a Letter

Definition “Primary Source”: the raw materials of history—original documents and objects that were created at the time under study (Library of Congress)

Directions:

- Select several primary sources and read them carefully
- Use the questions below to help you identify certain themes
- Then, using those themes write a letter from the perspective of a Revolutionary War Soldier or Civilian reflecting on George Washington’s military leadership

Main Question: How did some Americans during the Revolutionary War feel about George Washington’s military leadership?

Study:

1. Write down some words associated with George Washington in these primary sources:
2. Write down some common experiences recorded in these primary sources:
3. What insights do these primary sources provide about a Revolutionary War event/battle?

Identify Your Role:

Imagine yourself as a person living during the historical event. Identify your role, whether it's a soldier, a civilian, a leader, or any other relevant figure. Who are you, and what is your connection to the event you will write about?

Expressing Emotions:

Use the primary sources to help you express the emotions and thoughts of your chosen role. What would you have experienced, felt, or witnessed during this historical event?

Detailing the Event:

List at least three details about the historical event you will be writing about in your letter.

Consider Different Viewpoints:

Reflect on how different individuals might have experienced the same event differently. How would someone with a contrasting perspective react or feel? Include this awareness in your letter.

Writing Your Letter:

- Structure your letter with a proper greeting, introduction, body, and conclusion.
- Pay attention to the language and style that would be appropriate for the time and context of the historical event.
- Include the details you have previously listed in this worksheet.
- Proofread your letter for clarity, coherence, and correct grammar.

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