

Photography as a Primary Source Interactive Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

1. What is a primary source?
2. Look at the first 3-D picture from the Civil War.
 - a. What do you notice first about this picture? What stands out?
 - b. Where do you think this photograph was taken? How can you tell?
 - c. Do you think this was early in the war or closer to the end? Why do you think that?
 - d. Why do you think the guns are stacked like this? What part of the picture makes you think that?
 - e. What time of the year do you think it is? How can you tell?
 - f. Where do you think the soldiers are?
 - g. Where do you think the citizens of the town are?
 - h. What clues might help you guess whether these weapons belonged to the Union or the Confederacy?
 - i. List one or two things that this picture tells you about the war.

3. Look at the next picture of the men in their camp.
 - a. What do you notice first about this picture? What stands out?
 - b. What time of the year is it?
 - c. What do you think they are doing?
 - d. Who do you think they are? Are they Union or Confederate? Are they officers? How can you tell?
 - e. Who is the man in the background? What do you think his relationship is with the rest of the men in the picture?
 - f. List one or two things that this picture tells you about the war.
4. Look at the picture of the burial of fallen soldiers.
 - a. What do you notice first about this picture? What stands out?
 - b. What time of the year do you think is it? How can you tell?
 - c. Do you think these men are from the Union or from the Confederacy? How can you tell?
 - d. Are there enough coffins? What does this picture tell you about how soldiers were buried during the war?
 - e. What do you notice about the feet of the dead soldiers?
 - f. List one or two things that this picture tells you about the war.

5. Look at the picture of the men on the railroad track.
 - a. What do you notice first about this picture? What stands out?
 - b. Do you think these soldiers are Union or Confederate? What clues help you answer that question?
 - c. Can you guess where this photo was taken?
 - d. What time of the year is it? How can you tell?
 - e. Look closely at the men in the picture. What do you notice about them?
 - f. Is there anything telling about where each of them are standing?
 - g. Why do you think they are on the railroad?
 - h. List one or two things that this picture tells you about the war.