

Aim:

How do historians determine what happened in the past?

What is history?

- An account of the past constructed from evidence.

What complicates our understanding of history?

- This account of the past can differ based on the author's point of view.
- New evidence can be uncovered that can alter or change our understanding of the past.

What sources do historians use to learn about the past?

Sources

Primary Source

- materials from the time period being studied

Example: The Diary of Anne Frank, a diary written by a young Jewish girl who hid from the Nazis during the Holocaust.

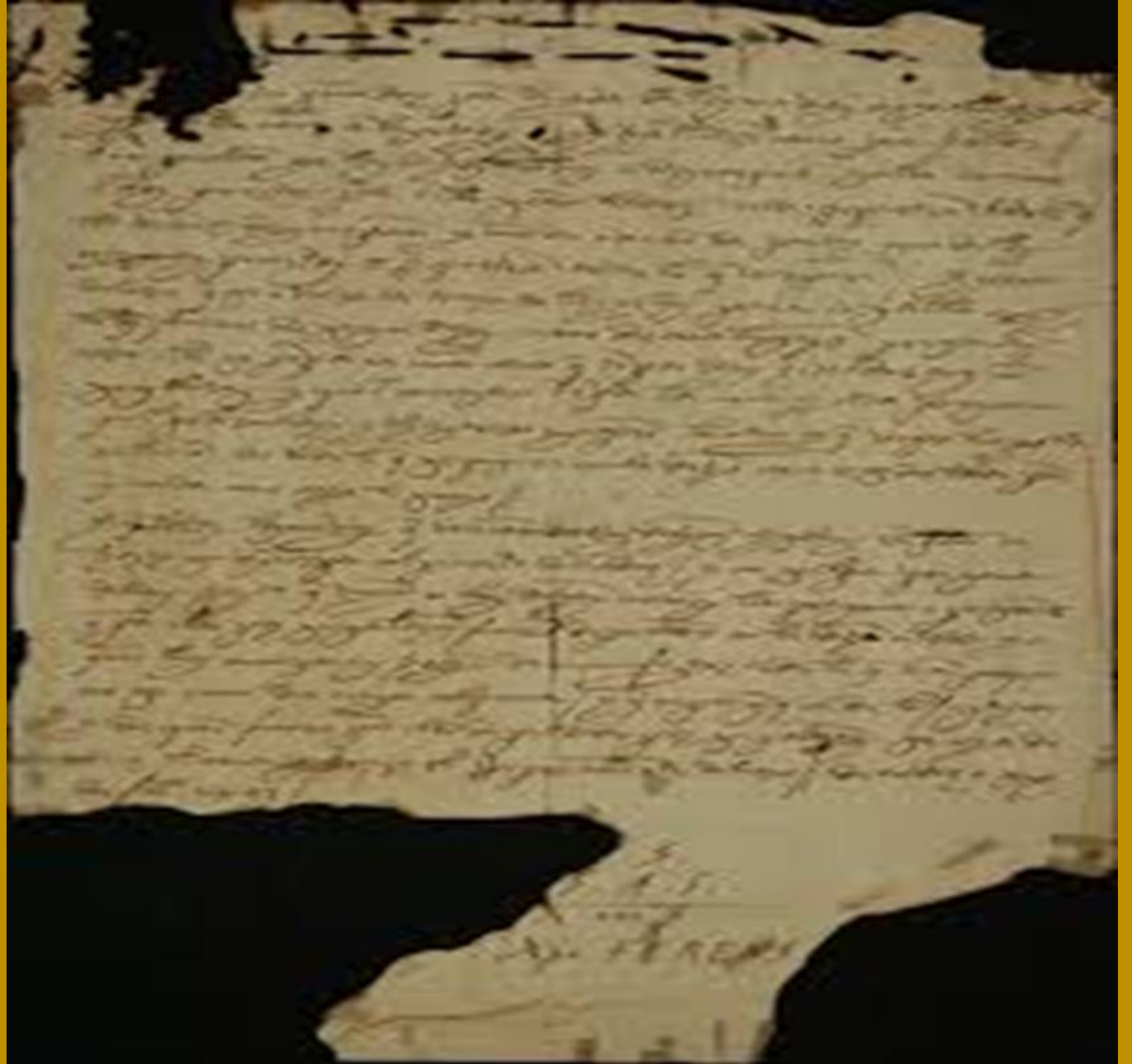
Secondary Source

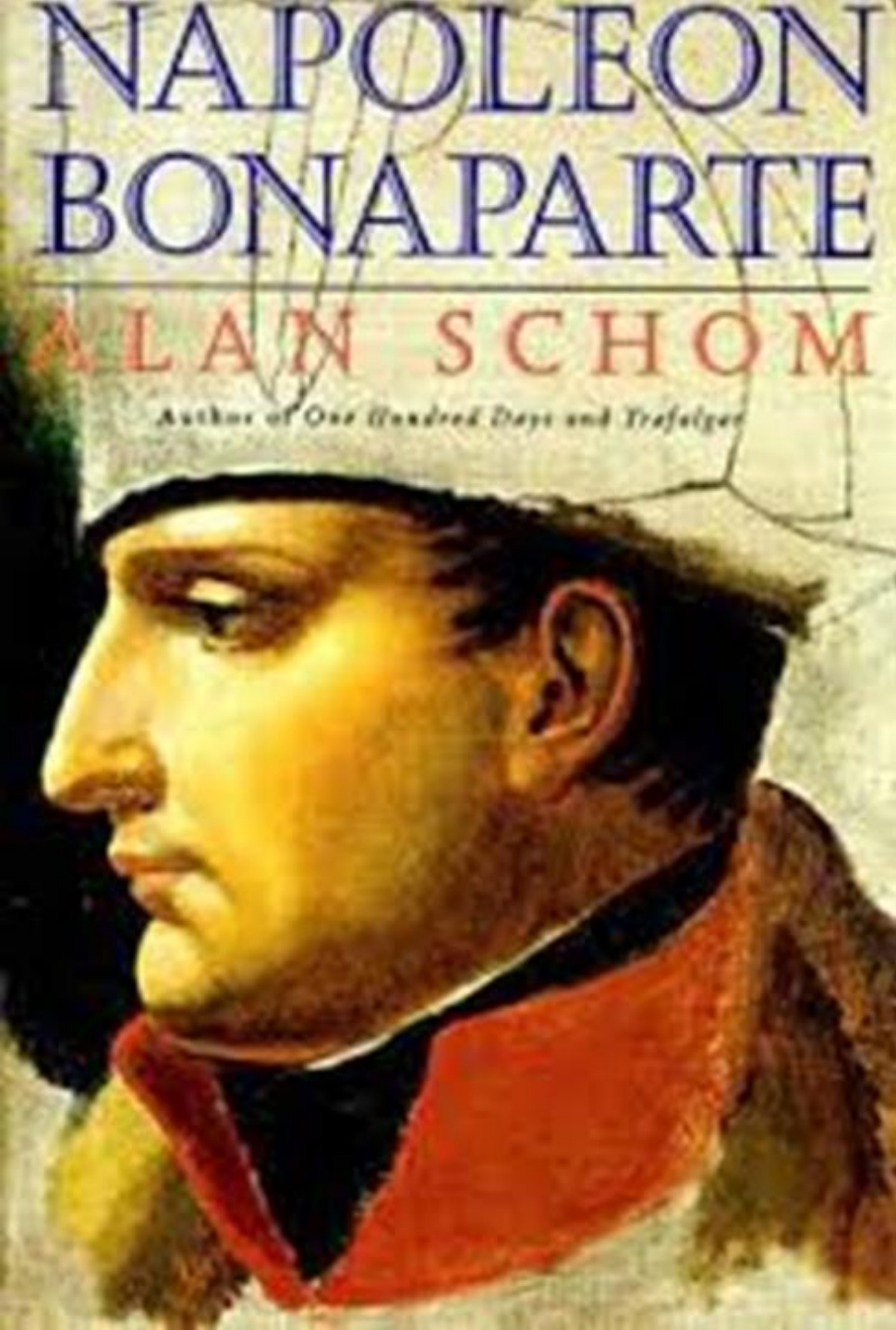
- a document created based on primary sources and the work of other authors

Example: An essay written in 2016 about the Neolithic Revolution that occurred in 10,000 B.C.E.

Primary or
Secondary?

- A **journal entry** written by Christopher Columbus describing his voyage across the Atlantic Ocean.





Primary or Secondary?

- A **biography** of Napoleon Bonaparte (died in 1821) written by a historian in 2013.

Primary or Secondary?

- A **textbook** chapter about World War I (1914-1919), written in 1996.

McDougal Littell

WORLD HISTORY

PATTERNS OF INTERACTION



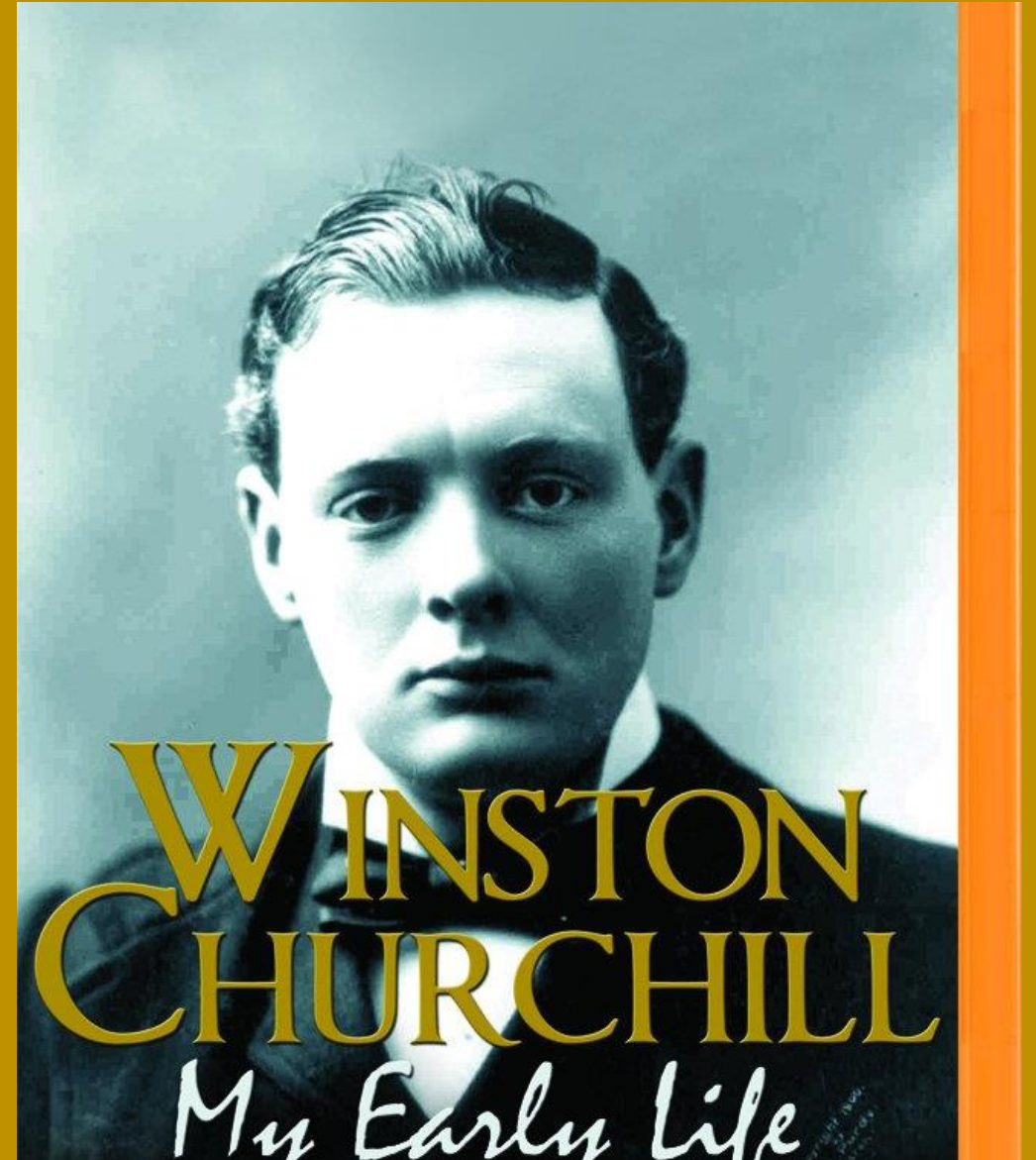
Primary or
Secondary?

- A **photograph** of your grandfather on his first day of school.



Primary or Secondary?

- Winston Churchill's **autobiography** about the first thirty years of his life which he wrote later in his life.



Primary or Secondary?

- A newspaper article about the start of World War II, written the day after it started.



To Thomas Jefferson

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 7th instant was brought to me by the
commenced between France and Great Britain, it behoves
every means in it's power to prevent the citizens thereof
powers, by endeavouring to maintain a strict neutrality
subject mature consideration, that such measures as
applicable purpose may be adopted^d without delay. I
designated as Privateers, & preparing accordingly)

Other measures as may be necessary

to avoid or controul you

Warren April 12th 1793

to what extent

have been acts

between France &

Government of the

is its power to

to be adopted

to be adopted

most likely to be adopted

without delay for I have understood

to be adopted

- A letter from George Washington to Thomas Jefferson.

Primary or Secondary?



- A **sword** that was made in 1317.

Primary or Secondary

Physical evidence of the past

- **Artifact** – a human-made object, such as a tool weapon or piece of jewelry
- **Archaeologist** - scientist who studies the culture of prehistoric and historic peoples through their artifacts

- **Fossil** - the naturally preserved remains or traces of animals or plants that lived in the geologic past.
 - **Body fossils** - include the remains of organisms that were once living
 - **Trace fossils** - the signs that organisms were present (i.e. footprints, tracks, trails, and burrows).
- **Paleontologist** - scientist who studies fossils

What different information can you get from Body Fossils as compared to Trace Fossils?

Body Fossils

Trace Fossils

What are the more reliable -- written sources or physical evidence? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each type of source?

WRITTEN SOURCES

- Often give a more information and a bigger picture
- bias

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

- Snapshots- not the full picture
- No bias

- BCE (Before Common Era)
- BC (Before Christ)

mean the same thing

previous to year 1

CE (Common Era)

AD (Anno Domini) -means "in the year of the lord," often translated as "in the year of our lord."

