

Name _____



Firsthand or Retold

Directions: Read each excerpt carefully. Decide whether the excerpt is a **Primary Source** (a firsthand account, created at the time of the event) or a **Secondary Source** (an interpretation, summary, or analysis created after the event).

Excerpt A → _____

"July 4, 1776. Today, we signed the Declaration of Independence. The room was tense, but there was also a sense of triumph. I dipped my pen in ink and placed my name alongside men of courage. May these words carry freedom across the land." – *Diary entry of a delegate, 1776*

Excerpt B → _____

In a modern history textbook, the Declaration of Independence is described as a turning point in American history. The author explains that the document not only declared separation from Britain but also inspired democratic movements worldwide.

Excerpt C → _____

A soldier's letter home from 1917 describes the trenches of World War I: "Mud fills our boots, and the air reeks of smoke. We fight hard, but each day feels endless. I dream of returning home, though I fear I may never see you again."

Excerpt D → _____

A documentary released in 2015 explores World War I. Using interviews with historians, reenactments, and photographs, it explains the causes, battles, and long-term impacts of the conflict.