**Investigating History Vocabulary**

**World History**

Historians use specific tools to eliminate false information, keeping information that can be fact checked when investigating the past in order to create a more accurate and reliable picture of the past. When investigating history this year we will be using these tools to examine historical events and topics.

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| Term | Definition | Examples | Illustration |
| **Primary Source** | Any artifact or first-hand account of an event. Primary sources are witnesses to the event.  |  |  |
| **Secondary Source** | Any re-telling of a story by someone who was NOT present at the event and only knows about it by studying primary sources. |  |  |
| **Cross-Reference** | Comparing multiple sources- the more sources that agree on the same story, the more likely the story is true. |  |  |
| Term | Definition | Examples | Illustration |
| **Credibility** | A source’s trustworthiness measured by:* Having qualified authors with trustworthy reputations
* Being created during acceptable circumstances
* Including only consistent, accurate facts
* Agreeing with other trusted sources (cross-references)
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| **Bias** | When a personal point of view and life experiences influence a person’s beliefs and/or actions* Can be either positive or negative
* The less bias a source has the more credible it is
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| **Thesis Statement** | An opinion based on credible evidence. An effective thesis:* Takes a position
* Previews evidence (but is not just a list of facts)
* Addresses all parts of the question
* Uses descriptive vocabulary
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