

When we start to look for primary sources, we have two basic things in mind:

Accessibility	Purpose
Who or what is easiest for me to get my hands on?	Whose perspective or what information could improve or enhance my argument/project?
Do I know where I can locate these sources?	In what ways will I use the info in the project?
Do these people have time for me?	Am I looking for a more humanistic, personal perspective or a more logical, factual perspective?
If they don't, who is the closest alternative person?	Am I just looking for some concrete or interesting examples to bring into my paper?
How long will it take to get the info from this source?	Who or what could answer my research questions?

Where to begin

With a partner or group, start tracing out primary source possibilities together. This chart shows the SPECTRUM of possible places you could look to find primary information. Try to fill in some primary source possibilities underneath each category on the spectrum.



