

Writing Assignment #1

A primary source is a piece of media that is written by someone who had a firsthand experience with the topic. We can identify a primary source by looking at the time period in which it was from. If the source is from the era that the topic or event occurred, it is more than likely a primary source. Primary sources might include journals and diaries. In science, primary sources include data and results from the original authors.

Review articles cover the same topics as primary sources in a summarized version. These articles may have quotes from a primary source, or multiple primary sources, in an attempt to display a good sense of knowledge on said topic. Most, if not all, review articles include citations from other sources to help back up the author's point of view. We can also look at review articles as “secondary sources.”

The scientific review process is a procedure all scientific articles must go through before they can be accepted by the academic community. Once an experimenter collects all of their data and writes their scientific article, they must send it to an editor to be reviewed. The editor can reject the article, or can send it to other peers to be reviewed again. In order to pass the scientific review process, it's contents must be relevant and valuable to the current scientific community. It must be structured logically and be written well. All of the data must be true and original — plagiarism is not acceptable by any means. If the article does not pass every one of these points, it will be rejected and sent back to the author for editing.

Of the two articles we were given, both would have gone through the peer review process. Their originality and credibility had to have been thoroughly looked through in order to be deemed a reliable source in the academic community. The article published in Nature Medicine was the primary source provided to us. I concluded that this was a primary source

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because it included original study results. The researchers looked at how widespread the human SARS-CoV disease really was. This leaves us with the Journal of Autoimmunity article as our review article. We can conclude that this is a review article because no study is being done, however the author shows a great deal of understanding on the topic of COVID-19 and backs up their knowledge with other sources.