## Types of Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources</th>
<th>Scholarly/Peer-reviewed</th>
<th>Trade</th>
<th>General Interest</th>
<th>Popular</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scholarly?</td>
<td>Scholarly</td>
<td>Not Scholarly</td>
<td>Not Scholarly</td>
<td>Not Scholarly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>Professional</td>
<td>Journalist</td>
<td>Writer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sources cited?</td>
<td>Always, usually has a bibliography</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks like</td>
<td>Often has graphs or charts, sometimes images</td>
<td>Often has graphs, charts, &amp; advertisements, sometimes images</td>
<td>Often attractive with images &amp; advertisements</td>
<td>Often attractive with images, no clear difference between content &amp; advertisements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Special subject vocabulary</td>
<td>Special subject vocabulary</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>Simple &amp; sensational, used to persuade or entertain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use for</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Best practices &amp; current industry news, products, &amp; trends</td>
<td>Current events, popular opinions, easy to understand summaries</td>
<td>Entertainment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Journal examples | • American Journal of Nursing  
• Journal of Chemical Education  
• Ethics & the Environment | • Energy News  
• Accounting Today  
• Advertising Age | • The New York Times  
• Scientific America  
• National Geographic | • Glamour  
• Reader’s Digest  
• Time |
| Book examples | • The Functions of Role-Playing Games: How Participants Create Community, Solve Problems and Explore Identity  
• Madness in Civilization: A Cultural History of Insanity from the Bible to Freud, from the Madhouse to Modern Medicine  
• The Thirteenth Turn: A History of the Noose | • Teaching and Learning with Infants and Toddlers: Where Meaning-Making Begins  
• Master Handbook of Acoustics  
• Physician’s Desk Reference (PDR) | • The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History  
• ASAP Science: Answers to the World’s Weirdest Questions, Most Persistent Rumors & Unexplained Phenomena  
• Taoism for Dummies | • Act Like a Leader, Think Like a Leader  
• The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up: The Japanese Art of Decluttering and Organizing  
• The Gifts of Imperfection: Let Go of Who You Think You’re Supposed to Be and Embrace Who You Are |
Primary Sources
For some research topics, you may want to cite original documents, interviews, artwork, artifacts, novels, poetry, or music. These are all primary sources, which were either created at the time of an event or created by a person who experienced an event. Primary sources offer a unique insight into a particular time or topic.

Examples of primary sources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Diary</th>
<th>Photo</th>
<th>Play</th>
<th>Pottery</th>
<th>Novel</th>
<th>Poetry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autobiography</td>
<td>Financial record</td>
<td>Meeting minutes</td>
<td>Historical Account</td>
<td>Official records (ex. Birth certificate)</td>
<td>Government documents</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Artwork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech</td>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>Magazine</td>
<td>Census data</td>
<td>Obituary</td>
<td>Film</td>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>Furniture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TV show</td>
<td>News recording</td>
<td>Advertisement</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Book</td>
<td>Political ads</td>
<td>Cars</td>
<td>Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artwork</td>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>Coins</td>
<td>Map</td>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>Memoir</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>