

Teaching with Primary Sources Lesson Outline

Grade Level: Middle School (6-8)

Standard(s) or Objectives: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.5: Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally).

Library of Congress or Morris Special Collections Resources:



“Glorious news from New Orleans! Splendid victory over the British forces.” Broadside, 1815.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/rbpe.05002600/>

Topic Background:

On December 24, 1814, Great Britain and the United States signed a treaty in Ghent, Belgium that effectively ended the War of 1812. News was slow to cross the pond, however, and on January 8, 1815, the two sides met in what is remembered as one of the conflict’s biggest and most decisive engagements. In the bloody Battle of New Orleans, future President Andrew Jackson and a motley assortment of militia fighters, frontiersmen, slaves, Indians and even pirates weathered a frontal assault by a superior British force, inflicting devastating casualties along the way. The victory vaulted Jackson to national stardom, and helped foil plans for a British invasion of the American frontier.

Excerpted from: <http://www.history.com/topics/battle-of-new-orleans>

Source(s) Used:

The source used for this assessment includes excerpts from a broadside entitled, “Glorious news from New Orleans! Splendid victory over the British forces,” printed in Essex, Massachusetts on February 9, 1815. The broadside includes letters from people present in New Orleans before and during the battle. Additionally, the broadside highlights the minimal losses of American lives compared to British, and forecasts the future celebrity of Andrew Jackson.

Answer Key:

Question 1: A

Question2: B

**“Glorious news from New Orleans! Splendid victory over the British forces.”
Broadside, 1815. [Excerpt]**

Essex Register Office, Feb. 9

The New-York papers by this morning's mail, furnished us with the following most glorious intelligence from New-Orleans. Gen. JACKSON will be immortalized—the bravery of the Kentuckians, the Tennesseans, & c. shall be handed down to the latest posterity.—If there ever was a stain upon “raw militia,” it was wiped away on the 8th of January. The result of this day's contest is of more importance in a national point of view, than any occurrence since the war.

The following is a letter from Mr. Le Blanc, a French merchant at New-Orleans, to a gentleman of New-York.

New-Orleans, Jan. 9—7 p.m.

The battle of the 8th of January was one of the hottest that we have hitherto had, and has happily terminated in our favor. The enemy at break of day appeared in a body principally upon our left, in order to make a [?] and turn our line that direction...For nearly two hours the battle was contested with the greatest fury. The enemy was for five minutes in possession of one of our batteries. Not one of those who attempted the assault escaped—they all fell under our batteries; the plain was strewn with killed and wounded, heaped upon each other. We made 175 prisoners, among whom are several Majors and officers; more than 500 wounded are in our hospitals, the greater part of whom are mortally wounded; from 8 to 900 were killed on the field of battle. The enemy in their retreat carried off as many wounded as they could, and we believe that that day cost them more than 2000 men killed, wounded, & prisoners.

Questions:

- 1) Which phrase best explains why Andrew Jackson will be “immortalized”? (CCSS-RH6-8.1)
 - a. “The result of this day's contest is of more importance in a national point of view, than any occurrence since the war.”
 - b. “the bravery of the Kentuckians, the Tennesseans, & c. shall be handed down to the latest posterity.”
 - c. “The New-York papers by this morning's mail, furnished us with the following most glorious intelligence from New-Orleans.”
 - d. “If there ever was a stain upon “raw militia,” it was wiped away on the 8th of January.”

- 2) Why are lines 6 through 10 of the Le Blanc letter an important part of his account of the battle? (CCSS-RH6-8.5)
 - a. These lines support the statement, “For nearly two hours the battle was contested with the greatest fury.”
 - b. These lines support the statement, “The battle...has happily terminated in our favor.”
 - c. These lines support the statement, “The enemy was for five minutes in possession of one of our batteries.”
 - d. These lines support the statement, “the plain was strewn with killed and wounded, heaped upon each other.”