## **Maryland's Champions of Freedom**

Conquer It — Comparing Primary and Secondary Sources on Harriet Tubman: Graphic Organizer

	Primary Source	Secondary Source
Topic	Harriet Tubman's work on the Underground Railroad	Harriet Tubman's Life
Author	William Still	Unknown; PBS website – Africans in America
How does the author know this information?	He knew and worked with Harriet Tubman after she escaped to Philadelphia in 1849.	This is not firsthand or eyewitness knowledge; the author researched the information.
What is the author's purpose?	To inform readers about the work of Harriet Tubman on the Underground Railroad.	To inform readers about the life of Harriet Tubman.
What is the author's point of view?	He admires Harriet Tubman as a person and for the work she did helping slaves escape.	The author admires Harriet Tubman because terms and phrases such as "always ready to stand up for someone else"  Undeterred, clever
		Quotes from John Brown and Frederick Douglass praising Tubman are included.
What information is included in the text?	Tubman made many trips to Maryland to help slaves escape.	In ten years Tubman freed 300 slaves with 19 trips to the South.
	Tubman seemed to have no fear of capture.	She was born a slave in Dorchester County, Maryland in 1820.

Primary Source	Secondary Source
Tubman was very watchful of the slaves she was helping.  At times she would sit by the road and go to sleep.  She implied death to anyone she was helping if they turned back.  She had a blunt and positive manner.	An overseer hit Tubman in the head with a two-pound weight resulting in her having spells of falling into a deep sleep for the rest of her life.  In 1844 she married a free black named John Tubman.  She was born Araminta Ross and changed her name to Harriet (her mother's name) Tubman.  In 1849, she ran away because of the fear of being sold.  She used the North Star to reach Philadelphia, PA.  She used different techniques to avoid capture, including using a master's horse and buggy and timing trips to avoid newspaper ads for runaway slaves.  She carried a gun and would threaten anyone who tried to turn back.  In 1856, there was a \$40,000 reward for her capture.  She worked with abolitionists, such as Frederick Douglass and John Brown, who admired her.  She worked as a cook, nurse, and spy during the Civil War.

	Primary Source	Secondary Source
What information is the same in the primary source as it is in the secondary source?  Corroboration	Harriet Tubman made many trips to the South to free slaves.  She would sometimes threaten the slaves traveling with her if they wanted to go back.  At times she would fall into deep sleeps.  Her contemporaries admired her; this included Still, Douglass, and Brown.	
What information is different in the two sources of information?	The information only covers the time she was working on the Underground Railroad.	The information covers her lifetime.  The information provided about the number of trips south and rescued slaves is much more detailed.
Is the additional information in the secondary source provable? Logical? Explain your answer.	The additional information in the secondary source is provable by checking other primary sources and appears logical.	