

The Revolutionary Americas

Conquer It — Comparing and Contrasting Primary and Secondary Sources on the Topic of the South American Revolutions and Wars for Independence

Criteria for Comparison	Secondary Source #1	Secondary Source #2	Primary Source #1	Primary Source #2
Title of document	The Great Liberators of Spanish America	Simon Bolivar	Address to the people of Venezuela	Message to the Congress of Angostura
Date document created	2015	Unknown	June 15, 1813	1819
Author of document	MPT Lesson Writer	Manuel Perez Vila	Simon de Bolivar	Simon de Bolivar
Purpose/Audience of document	To inform students about the South American revolutions and wars for independence.	To inform readers about the life and achievement of Simon Bolivar.	To offer amnesty to any Venezuelan who fought against the patriots and to threaten death to any Spaniard or Canary Islander if they do not support the cause of independence.	The audience is the Congress of Angostura and the purpose of the speech is to describe this vision for the nation's government.
Author's Point of View	Bolivar was brilliant and largely responsible for South American independence from Spain.	Simon Bolivar's talents, training and education made him an outstanding leader in the South American wars for independence.	The future of Venezuela lies in the reconciliation and friendship between the patriots and loyalists.	The situation in Venezuela is complex and requires a government to rule the nation with justice.

Criteria for Comparison	Secondary Source #1	Secondary Source #2	Primary Source #1	Primary Source #2
Information that is similar to other sources (corroborated information)	<p>Bolivar was a wealthy Venezuelan.</p> <p>Venezuela declared independence from Spain in 1811.</p> <p>Venezuela gained independence in 1821.</p> <p>Bolivar was brilliant and largely responsible for South American independence from Spain.</p> <p>Simon Bolivar and Jose de San Martin worked together to win independence.</p>	<p>Bolivar was a wealthy Venezuelan.</p> <p>Bolivar was a brilliant military leader.</p> <p>In 1813, he was given the title Liberator (Primary Source #1).</p> <p>In 1819, Bolivar gave a speech to Congress in Angostura (corroborated by Primary Source #1).</p> <p>Venezuelan independence was gained in 1821.</p> <p>Simon Bolivar and Jose de San Martin worked together to win independence.</p>	<p>From the full title it indicates Bolivar's position in the militia that was fighting for Venezuela's independence.</p> <p>In 1813 he was given the title Liberator.</p>	<p>The speech was made in 1819 to Congress in which Bolivar expressed his political ideas.</p>
Information that is different from other sources	<p>Argentina declared its independence in 1816.</p> <p>In 1817 San Martin helped win Chile's independence.</p> <p>In 1812 San Martin left his army to Bolivar to command as he fought for Peru's independence.</p>	<p>Under Bolivar's leadership the Spanish colonies gained their independence on December 9, 1824.</p> <p>Bolivar received early education and military training in Venezuela and later traveled to Spain to further his education.</p>	<p>Bolivar granted amnesty to the loyalists who fought against him in Venezuela in 1813.</p> <p>He threatened death to Spaniards and Canary Islanders who did not support the independence cause.</p>	<p>Bolivar did not want to copy the North American government.</p> <p>Bolivar wanted a hereditary Senate similar to the British Parliament, which he believed had provided stability to the nation.</p>

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	<p>Bolivar used his family's wealth to fund the revolution.</p>	<p>April 19, 1810, is the date of the Declaration of Independence.</p> <p>Bolivar is sent to London as a representative of the revolution.</p> <p>When Bolivar returned in 1811 he became a spokesperson for independence and entered military service.</p> <p>In 1817 Bolivar created various government councils, established a newspaper and redistributed property in Venezuela.</p> <p>Bolivar formed the Great Columbian Republic in 1819, which consisted of Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador and Panama.</p> <p>Peru formed an independent government on February 10, 1825.</p> <p>The nation of Bolivia was created to honor Bolivar.</p>		<p>Bolivar believed having all major government offices dependent on elections was dangerous and invited instability and chaos.</p>