## Assessing with Primary Sources

## Grade Level: 6

Standard(s) or CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.5: Analyze how a particular sentence, Objectives: paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.

## Library of Congress Resources:



Letter from Helen Keller to Mabel Hubbard Bell, August 20, 1893. Contributor Names: Mabel Hubbard Bell and Helen Keller.

## https://www.loc.gov/resource/magbell.12400303/?sp=1

## Topic Background:

In the 1800s, written correspondences were still very common. Often, after a visit somewhere, the visitors sent a letter mostly to thank whoever made their trip experiences enjoyable. This correspondence is a letter by Helen Keller to Mabel Hubbard Bell, in 1893.

Excerpted from: The letter is excerpted from:
https://www.loc.gov/resource/magbell.12400303/?sp=1

## Source(s) Used:

The source used for this assessment is a letter written by Helen Keller to Mabel H. Bell on August 20, 1893. It belongs to the Alexander Graham Bell family papers.

## Answer Key:

Students should explain that these lines are important to the entire letter, as they show how the writer is able to experience the world through different ways.

Directions: Read this excerpt of a letter and answer the question that follows.
Helen Keller's letter to Mabel Hubbard Bell- August 20, 1893

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 indebted to you and dear Mr. Bell for a most delightful visit. My
mind is constantly recurring to it, and to the many delightful days
we spent at the Fair. Sometimes people express surprise that I was
able to see and enjoy so much; but that is because they do not real-
ize how much of God's beautiful world the eyes of the mind and soul
reveal to us. I am like the people my dear friend Dr. Holmes tells
about, who have eyes in their fingers, so that they spy out every-
thing interesting, and get hold of it, as a magnet picks out iron
filings.
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Question: Why are lines 3-5 ("sometimes people express surprise that I was...") important to the entire letter? (CCSS.RI.6.5)
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Created as part of the Assessing with Primary Sources Project
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