1.4 ⚖️ Evaluating Sources

**(1) Historical Question:** Was a 1933 labour strike in a New Jersey factory effective in getting better conditions for workers? (A labour strike is when workers join together and refuse to work unless their demands are met by their employer.)

**Source:** An interview from 1994 with a worker who helped lead the strike in 1933.

**Strengths:**

**Limitations** (What about the source might limit its usefulness as evidence for answering the historical question?):

**(2) Historical Question:** Why did the Qin Dynasty end? (The Qin Dynasty lasted from 221-206 BCE in territory that is today China.)

**Source:** A 1974 article from a Chinese newspaper saying that the Qin Dynasty fell because it did not punish its critics severely enough. The Chinese government was punishing its own critics at the time and it controlled what newspapers could publish.

**Strengths:**

**Limitations:**

**(3) Historical Question:** What role did John Adams play in the American Revolution?

**Source:** A 2009 television mini-series about John Adams’s life and political career. The show was based on an award-winning book by historian David McCullough.

**Strengths:**

**Limitations:**

**(4) Historical Question:** What was the Union Army’s strategy at the Battle of Antietam?

**Source:** A diary entry from a low-ranking Union soldier describing the battle.

**Strengths:**

**Limitations:**

**(5) Historical Question:** What was life like in ancient Mesopotamia?

**Source:** Fragments of a poem from ancient Mesopotamia that tells the adventurous tales of a heroic king.

**Strengths:**

**Limitations:**