


What are the Key Benefits?

Editorial work	Like all SIRS products, Decades consists entirely of editorially selected content and editorially generated overviews and summaries.
Curriculum support	Thousands of primary source documents are tied to core topics in 20 th -century U.S. history.
Multiple viewpoints	Letters, editorial cartoons, and other primary sources expose students to diverse perspectives, including typically marginalized minority perspectives.
Critical thinking	Standards-correlated document-based questions require students to read, analyze, and synthesize important historical documents.
Visual appeal	Photographs, graphics, and an interactive timeline make history appealing to nontraditional learners.

Why SIRS Decades over Competitors?

SIRS At a Glance	Unique Differentiators
<p>CONTENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,000+ handpicked primary sources, including editorial cartoons, letters, photographs, and speeches • Numerous editorially created overviews and summaries • Many vetted links to external web sites • Dozens of document-based questions correlated to national curriculum standards • Full citation information <p>FEATURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “So what?” sidebars linking historical issues to current controversies • Interactive timeline • Rotating cartoon gallery • Keyword and subject search • Fair Use checklist • Editorial advisory • 508 compliance • Free online training • Regular newsletters 	<p>Following the distinctive SIRS methodology of indexing and writing introductions to carefully selected materials, Decades provides access to many of 20th-century America’s most useful primary sources. A valuable hybrid, Decades combines the richness of library archives with the pizzazz of an interactive timeline.</p> <p>SIRS Decades vs. Greenwood’s DailyLifeOnline — Whereas DailyLifeOnline is mainly an online version of Greenwood’s book and reference materials, SIRS contains numerous and diverse primary sources.</p> <p>SIRS Decades vs. ABC-Clio American History — Although both products contain primary sources and features tying historical issues to contemporary controversies, only SIRS Decades has an interactive timeline and dozens of standards-correlated DBQs.</p> <p>SIRS Decades vs. Google — Google provides access to great history sites and lousy, racist, and obscene ones; SIRS Decades ensures students never see any of the bad ones, while making some microfilm available online for the first time.</p> 

Questions to Ask Before Investing:

Teacher	Is it important for students to have access to a wide variety of primary source documents?
Principal	Does preparing students to think critically enhance their prospects of academic success?
Ed Technology	Are you comfortable with a resource that has to include disclaimers about its Web content?
Media Specialist	How useful is a product that ties thousands of historical documents to core curriculum areas?