Yugambeh Nation

Name: _____

Date: _____

AGES 14 AND UP · HISTORY SKILLS

Sources and Silences

Content note. This sheet refers to a massacre in Butchulla Country in 1860.

Analyse the sources

Source	Who made it?	What does it tell us?	What might be missing?
Colonial accounts			
The letter in the Moreton Bay Courier			
Witnesses			
The Nation's own telling			

Questions

1. The Reading says colonial accounts were "fragmentary and often reluctant". What does that mean for historians?

2. Two men are known only by names colonists gave them. Why might the record not include their own names?

3. "The full number of lives taken was never formally counted." What does this silence tell us?

4. How can oral history and a Nation telling its own story help us understand what the written record leaves out?