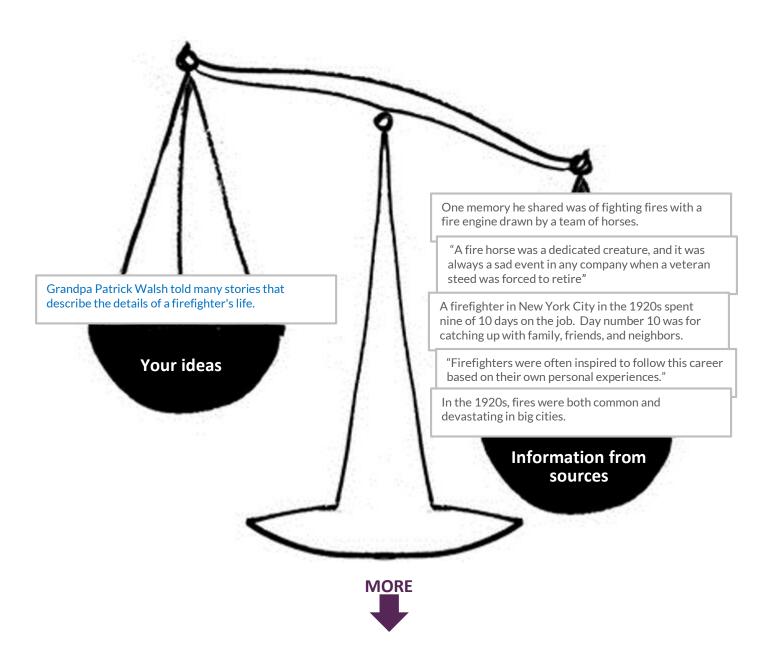
## Balancing your ideas and your sources

## Too much information from sources

Grandpa Patrick Walsh told many stories that describe the details of a firefighter's life. One memory he shared was of fighting fires with a fire engine drawn by a team of horses (Jones, 2014). "A fire horse was a dedicated creature, and it was always a sad event in any company when a veteran steed was forced to retire" (West, 2011, p. 131). A firefighter in New York City in the 1920s spent nine of 10 days on the job. Day number 10 was for catching up with family, friends, and neighbors (West, 2011). "Firefighters were often inspired to follow this career based on their own personal experiences" (Jones, 2014, p. 37). In the 1920s, fires were both common and devastating in big cities. (West, 2011).



## The right balance between your ideas and information from sources

Grandpa Patrick Walsh spent his days battling the city's blazes in the 1920s. He was a noted story-teller and shared many stories about fighting fires with fire engines drawn by a team of horses (A. Jones, 2014). The horses were beloved for their fearlessness and dedication. "A fire horse was a dedicated creature, and it was always a sad event in any company when a veteran steed was forced to retire" (West, 2011, p. 131). Grandpa Walsh worked long hard days with few breaks, but this was typical. A firefighter in New York City in the 1920s spent nine of 10 days on the job. Day number 10 was for catching up with family, friends, and neighbors (West, 2011). Interestingly, I was able to learn what inspired Grandpa Walsh to pursue this career.

