

Determining Fact, Opinion, and Bias

Name: _____

Fact: a piece of information presented as having an objective reality; knowledge or information based on real occurrences

Opinion: a view, judgment, or appraisal formed in the mind about a particular matter; a belief or judgment that rests on grounds insufficient to produce complete certainty

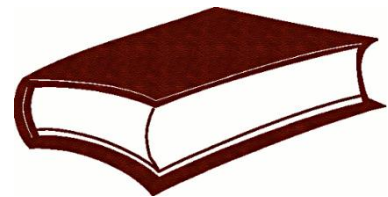
Bias: an inclination of temperament or outlook, *especially* a personal and sometimes unreasoned judgment

Ways that bias may be created:

- the writer has incomplete information
- the writer is deliberately trying to persuade the audience
- the writer's experience is influencing the writer's attitude

1. Identify any facts, opinions or bias in this paragraph:

Reading for pleasure is a waste of time. People who spend hour upon hour reading don't get to live in the real world. They don't really learn anything that is useful about how to deal with everyday people and problems. Plus, teachers always make us read things that are boring.



2. Identify any facts, opinions or bias in this paragraph: (this article was written in the USA where school uniforms are not worn)



Parents always talk about how if schools had uniforms, everything would be so much easier. You wouldn't get caught up on looks and would learn the skills you need. I disagree with this, I think that school uniforms would put a restriction on our creativity. We dress the way we do for a certain reason. Clothes give us expression and the ability to use colour and patterns. The first impression we get of people is usually clothes, facial expression and language. If we all wear the same thing we don't get to really see what people are like on the inside. Usually girly girls wear pink and frilly things. Skaters wear baggy pants and Goths usually wear black. Clothes don't distract us from learning the studies we need to, it simply lets us inspire our imaginations and lights up our worlds.—Anonymous writer on TeenInk.com

3. Identify any facts, opinions or bias in the following paragraph:

Eating tomatoes is one of the best things you can do. These beautiful, red fruit not only thrills your taste buds and brighten your plate, they help fight disease. Studies show that people who eat tomatoes, and lots of them, lower their risks of cancer because tomatoes contain lycopene, a powerful antioxidant.—Dr. Joe Medicine



4. Write 3 sentences about school – one with facts, one with your own opinion and one that shows bias.