

Identifying Bias in News

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will recognize signs of bias in a news article by analyzing word choice and missing perspectives.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Two news articles covering the same event from different sources
- Highlighter
- Notebook paper
- Pencil

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Find two articles about the same real event, ideally from two different news sources.
2. Highlight any loaded or emotional words in each article (words that carry strong positive or negative feeling).
3. List which people or groups are quoted in each article, and note any groups that seem to be left out.
4. Create a simple two-column chart comparing the tone and word choice of Article A versus Article B.
5. Write a short paragraph stating which article, if either, seems more balanced and why.

QUESTIONS

1. **List three loaded or emotional words you highlighted, and what more neutral word could replace each one.**

2. **Whose voices or perspectives were included in each article, and whose seemed to be missing?**

3. **Based on your comparison, which article seemed more balanced, and what evidence supports that judgment?**

4. Why is it important for readers to compare multiple news sources on the same story?
