Why Views Differ

How needs and experiences shape perspectives on events

7.P.2.2.B "Describe multiple factors and explain how they can influence the perspectives of individuals and groups on events from history and the modern era."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two different views of the factory fire and two different views of the school closings, then circle a factor that helps explain each view.

The Event and the Viewpoint

1. On March 25, 1911, a fire swept through the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York City. The factory made women's blouses, and many employees were immigrant women. The fire killed 146 workers. Some escape routes were blocked or locked, and the building's fire escape collapsed. A worker who had lost a friend might see the disaster as proof that safety rules mattered more than production speed. An owner of a different factory might fear fires but worry that new safety equipment would cost money. Grief and costs shaped different views.

2. After the fire, labor organizers pushed for stronger rules to protect workers. Their views reflected what they heard from employees who faced daily risks. Some business owners argued that added rules could raise costs and make it harder to run a factory. Officials had to consider both worker safety and pressure from businesses. New York State investigated factory conditions and passed many workplace safety laws. Those changes did not erase the losses. They show how a person's job, experiences, and responsibilities can shape what that person wants after a disaster.

3. In 2020, many schools closed their buildings during the COVID-19 pandemic and taught students at home. A nurse might support closing buildings to reduce the risk of illness for patients and families. A parent whose job required leaving home might worry about who would care for a child during the day. A student without reliable internet might struggle to join online lessons. These people could all value learning and health while disagreeing about the decision. Their work, family needs, and access to technology shaped what each noticed first.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How might losing a friend shape a worker's view of the factory fire? How might the cost of equipment shape another factory owner's view?

2. Why did labor organizers and some business owners want different responses after the fire?

3. How might a nurse and a parent who must leave home for work view the 2020 school closings differently? Explain the factor behind each view.

4. Compare the worker who lost a friend with the student without reliable internet. How could each person's experience shape a view of an event?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine your town plans to replace a parking lot with a public garden. In one paragraph, describe how two groups might view the plan differently, explain two factors behind each group's view, and name one concern they might share.

ANSWER KEY

Why Views Differ

GRADE 7 · 7.P.2.2.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two different views of the factory fire and two different views of the school closings, then circle a factor that helps explain each view. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How might losing a friend shape a worker's view of the factory fire? How might the cost of equipment shape another factory owner's view?	**The worker might see stronger safety rules as more important than production speed. The other owner might fear fires but worry about the cost of new equipment.**
2	Why did labor organizers and some business owners want different responses after the fire?	**Labor organizers heard from workers facing daily risks and pushed for stronger rules. Some business owners worried that the rules would raise costs and make factories harder to run.**
3	How might a nurse and a parent who must leave home for work view the 2020 school closings differently? Explain the factor behind each view.	**A nurse might support closing buildings to reduce illness risk. A parent who must leave home for work might worry about daytime child care.**
4	Compare the worker who lost a friend with the student without reliable internet. How could each person's experience shape a view of an event?	**Losing a friend could make the worker place greater importance on factory safety. Lacking reliable internet could make the student concerned about learning during school closings.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Neighbors with small yards might support the garden because they want outdoor space and a cooler place to spend summer afternoons. Shopkeepers might oppose the plan because customers use the parking lot and delivery trucks need room to stop. Both groups might want the area to be safe and easy for people to reach.

Accept other passage-supported explanations of each perspective. For Part 3, look for two distinct groups, two plausible factors for each group's view, and a shared concern.