

Fact or Feeling?

Sort statements you can check from personal beliefs.

3.14 "Social studies skills. The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of valid sources, including technology. The student is expected to: gather information..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

FACTS

A fact is a statement you can check in a map, record, book, or other source. It can be proved true or false.

A map shows Lakeview Road.

OPINIONS

An opinion tells what someone thinks or feels. People may have different opinions.

The museum has the most interesting exhibits.

1 SORT _____

8 items

Circle FACTS or OPINIONS for each statement, then choose two items and explain how you knew where each one belongs.

1. City hall is on Oak Street.

FACTS

OPINIONS

2. The new playground is the best place in town.

FACTS

OPINIONS

3. The town election is held on Tuesday.

FACTS

OPINIONS

4. The river runs north of the school.

FACTS

OPINIONS

5. The bus route is too crowded.

FACTS

OPINIONS

6. The fire station has three trucks.

FACTS

OPINIONS

7. Our town needs more bike paths.

FACTS

OPINIONS

8. The farmers market opens at 8:00 a.m.

FACTS

OPINIONS

2

PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3

MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new FACTS statement and one new OPINIONS statement about a community.

FACTS _____

OPINIONS _____

CHALLENGE

Write a claim about your community, then give two facts that support your claim.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	City hall is on Oak Street.	FACTS	Its location can be checked on a map or in a city record.
2	The new playground is the best place in town.	OPINIONS	"Best" tells what someone thinks.
3	The town election is held on Tuesday.	FACTS	The election date can be checked in an official schedule.
4	The river runs north of the school.	FACTS	Its location can be checked on a map.
5	The bus route is too crowded.	OPINIONS	"Too crowded" is a judgment that may differ by person.
6	The fire station has three trucks.	FACTS	The number of trucks can be checked.
7	Our town needs more bike paths.	OPINIONS	"Needs" tells what someone believes should happen.
8	The farmers market opens at 8:00 a.m.	FACTS	The opening time can be checked in a schedule.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **FACTS:** The community pool closes at 6:00 p.m.
- **OPINIONS:** The community pool should stay open later.

Challenge: Our community should protect its parks. Parks give people a place to play. Trees in parks help clean the air.

Items 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8 are FACTS. Items 2, 5, and 7 are OPINIONS. For Part 2, accept explanations that identify whether a statement can be checked or tells a personal belief.