Fact or Opinion?

Sort statements, then find support for an author's opinion.

4.RI.1.C "Distinguish between fact and opinion and explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support opinions within texts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

FACT

A fact is a statement that can be checked and shown to be true. You can look for proof in a reliable source or by observing it.

A triangle has three sides.

OPINION

An opinion tells what someone thinks or feels. An author can use reasons and evidence to support an opinion, but the opinion is not proven true or false like a fact.

Winter is the coziest season.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle FACT or OPINION for each statement, then for Part 2, choose two items and explain how you knew which category each one belongs in.

1.	Honey is made by bees.	FACT OPINION
2.	A week has seven days.	FACT OPINION
3.	Rainy afternoons are perfect for reading.	FACT OPINION
4.	Earth's moon orbits Earth.	FACT OPINION
5.	Soccer is more exciting than baseball.	FACT OPINION
6.	The best lunch is soup and bread.	FACT OPINION
7.	Water freezes at 0°C, or 32°F.	FACT OPINION
8.	A rectangle has four sides.	FACT OPINION

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

For Part 3, write one new FACT that can be checked and one new OPINION that tells what you think or feel.

FACT _____

OPINION _____

CHALLENGE

Challenge: Read this text. "Our town should add more bike racks near the library. Last month, 24 bikes were locked to trees and fences outside the building. More racks would give riders a safe place to park." Write the author's opinion and one reason or piece of evidence the author uses to support it.

ANSWER KEY

Fact or Opinion?

GRADE 4 · 4.RI.1.C

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Honey is made by bees.	**FACT**	This can be checked and shown true.
2	A week has seven days.	**FACT**	This can be checked on a calendar.
3	Rainy afternoons are perfect for reading.	**OPINION**	Perfect is a personal judgment.
4	Earth's moon orbits Earth.	**FACT**	This can be checked in reliable science sources.
5	Soccer is more exciting than baseball.	**OPINION**	Exciting is a personal feeling.
6	The best lunch is soup and bread.	**OPINION**	Best is a personal choice.
7	Water freezes at 0°C, or 32°F.	**FACT**	This can be tested and checked.
8	A rectangle has four sides.	**FACT**	This can be checked using the definition of a rectangle.

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)

- **FACT**: The Pacific Ocean is larger than the Atlantic Ocean.
- **OPINION**: Library time is the best part of the school day.

Challenge: Opinion: Our town should add more bike racks near the library. Evidence: Last month, 24 bikes were locked to trees and fences outside the building.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify facts as checkable and opinions as personal thoughts or feelings. In the challenge, students should name the opinion and identify the number of bikes as evidence or safe parking as a reason.