

Fact or Feeling?

Sort statements by what can be checked.

4.RI.1 "Key Ideas and Confirming Details Summarize the main idea of multi-paragraph texts and the specific paragraphs within them, explaining how key details support the main ideas. Summarize events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in historical..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

FACT

A fact is a statement that can be checked and shown to be true or false.

A year has twelve months.

OPINION

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

Painting is a wonderful hobby.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

For each statement, circle FACT or OPINION, then choose two items and explain what makes each one a fact or an opinion.

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. A triangle has three sides. | ☐ FACT | ☐ OPINION |
| 2. Honeybees live in colonies. | ☐ FACT | ☐ OPINION |
| 3. Recess is the best part of the school day. | ☐ FACT | ☐ OPINION |
| 4. George Washington was the first president of the United States. | ☐ FACT | ☐ OPINION |
| 5. Rainy days are boring. | ☐ FACT | ☐ OPINION |
| 6. Soccer is more exciting than basketball. | ☐ FACT | ☐ OPINION |
| 7. A thermometer measures temperature. | ☐ FACT | ☐ OPINION |
| 8. Libraries are the most peaceful places. | ☐ 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

Write one new FACT statement and one new OPINION statement.

FACT _____

OPINION _____

CHALLENGE

Write an opinion about a school subject and give one reason that supports it.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	A triangle has three sides.	FACT	This can be checked in geometry.
2	Honeybees live in colonies.	FACT	This is a checkable scientific fact.
3	Recess is the best part of the school day.	OPINION	Whether recess is best depends on personal preference.
4	George Washington was the first president of the United States.	FACT	This can be verified in historical records.
5	Rainy days are boring.	OPINION	People can feel differently about rainy days.
6	Soccer is more exciting than basketball.	OPINION	Excitement is a personal judgment.
7	A thermometer measures temperature.	FACT	This is a checkable fact about a tool.
8	Libraries are the most peaceful places.	OPINION	Peacefulness is a personal judgment.

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 moon orbits Earth.
- **OPINION:** Summer is the nicest season.

Challenge: Science is the most interesting school subject because experiments let students test ideas.

Accept any accurate, checkable statement as a fact and any personal judgment or preference as an opinion. In Part 2, students should explain that facts can be checked, while opinions express thoughts or feelings.