Fact or Feeling?

Sort statements by what can be checked.

4.RI "The student will use textual evidence to demonstrate comprehension and build knowledge from grade-level complex informational texts read..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

FACT

A fact is true and can be checked using reliable sources, observations, or measurements.

The Moon travels around Earth.

OPINION

An opinion tells what someone thinks or feels. People may give reasons for an opinion, but it cannot be proved true or false.

Space travel is the most exciting kind of adventure.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle FACT or OPINION for each statement; then, in PROVE IT, choose two item numbers and explain how you knew where each statement belongs.

1. A camel can live for days without drinking water. **FACT** **OPINION**

2. The Statue of Liberty was a gift from France. **FACT** **OPINION**

3. Camels are the coolest animals. **FACT** **OPINION**

4. Plants use sunlight to make food. **FACT** **OPINION**

5. Every school should have a garden. **FACT** **OPINION**

6. Reading mysteries is more fun than reading biographies. **FACT** **OPINION**

7. A triangle has three sides. **FACT** **OPINION**

8. Winter is the best season of the year. **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 and one new OPINION about a topic you know.

FACT _____

OPINION _____

CHALLENGE

Write an opinion about school, then add one fact that could be used as evidence to support it.

ANSWER KEY

Fact or Feeling?

GRADE 4 · 4.RI

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	A camel can live for days without drinking water.	**FACT**	This is a true claim that can be checked in reliable sources.
2	The Statue of Liberty was a gift from France.	**FACT**	This is a true historical claim that can be checked.
3	Camels are the coolest animals.	**OPINION**	"Coolest" shows a personal judgment that cannot be proved.
4	Plants use sunlight to make food.	**FACT**	This is a scientific fact that can be observed and checked.
5	Every school should have a garden.	**OPINION**	"Should" signals a belief about what is best.
6	Reading mysteries is more fun than reading biographies.	**OPINION**	"More fun" is a personal preference.
7	A triangle has three sides.	**FACT**	This is a true math fact that can be checked.
8	Winter is the best season of the year.	**OPINION**	"Best" shows a personal preference.

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**: Penguins are birds.
- **OPINION**: Penguins are the funniest birds.

Challenge: Opinion: Our school should have more library books about animals. Fact: The animal books are often checked out.

Accept facts only when the claim is true and can be checked. For the challenge, accept different opinions if the added fact is relevant evidence.