

Fact Check Sort

Sort statements by what can be checked and what expresses a judgment.

S.CE "The student will apply history and social science skills to the content by selecting and synthesizing evidence from information sources including, but not limited to artifacts, primary and secondary sources, charts, graphs..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

FACT

A fact is a statement that can be checked using reliable evidence. It can be shown to be true or false.

The first ten amendments to the Constitution are called the Bill of Rights.

OPINION

An opinion expresses a belief, preference, or judgment. People may disagree about it.

A longer school day would improve learning.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

For Part 1, circle FACT or OPINION for each statement, then for Part 2, choose two items and explain what makes each one a fact or an opinion.

1. The U.S. Constitution was signed in 1787.

FACT

OPINION

2. Virginia has 95 counties.

FACT

OPINION

3. A city should spend more money on public parks.

FACT

OPINION

4. The President can veto a bill passed by Congress.

FACT

OPINION

5. Recycling laws are the best way to reduce trash.

FACT

OPINION

6. Voting is the most important responsibility of citizenship.

FACT

OPINION

7. The Federal Reserve helps manage the U.S. money supply.

FACT

OPINION

8. Public transportation is too expensive for most cities.

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 about civics or economics.

FACT _____

OPINION _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about Congress, one FACT and one OPINION, and label each sentence.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The U.S. Constitution was signed in 1787.	FACT	The signing date can be verified in reliable historical sources.
2	Virginia has 95 counties.	FACT	The number of counties can be checked using government geographic information.
3	A city should spend more money on public parks.	OPINION	The word should expresses a judgment about spending priorities.
4	The President can veto a bill passed by Congress.	FACT	This is a constitutional power that can be verified.
5	Recycling laws are the best way to reduce trash.	OPINION	Best is a judgment that people can reasonably debate.
6	Voting is the most important responsibility of citizenship.	OPINION	Most important is a personal or civic judgment.
7	The Federal Reserve helps manage the U.S. money supply.	FACT	This role can be verified using reliable economic sources.
8	Public transportation is too expensive for most cities.	OPINION	Too expensive is a judgment and depends on the speaker's standards and evidence.

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 Supreme Court has nine justices.
- **OPINION:** School lunches should include more fresh fruit.

Challenge: **FACT:** Congress has two chambers. **OPINION:** Congress should make laws more quickly.

Part 1 answers are **FACT**, **FACT**, **OPINION**, **FACT**, **OPINION**, **OPINION**, **FACT**, **OPINION**. For Part 2, accept explanations that identify checkable evidence for facts or a belief, preference, or judgment for opinions.