

Fact or Feeling?

Sort each statement, then explain two choices.

S.USI.d "integrating evidence to construct and analyze timelines, classify events, and distinguish fact from opinion;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

FACT

A fact can be checked using evidence, such as a book, map, record, or reliable source.

A week has seven days.

OPINION

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

Snowy mornings are wonderful.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle FACT or OPINION for each statement, then choose two items and explain how you knew.

1. The first U.S. president was George Washington.

FACT

OPINION

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

FACT

OPINION

3. School uniforms make students look neat.

FACT

OPINION

4. Abraham Lincoln was the 16th U.S. president.

FACT

OPINION

5. History is more exciting than science.

FACT

OPINION

6. Visiting a museum is a boring way to spend Saturday.

FACT

OPINION

7. The Statue of Liberty is in New York Harbor.

FACT

OPINION

8. Everyone should learn to play an instrument.

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 any social studies topic.

FACT _____

OPINION _____

CHALLENGE

Write an opinion about a historical place, then write one fact that could support your opinion.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The first U.S. president was George Washington.	FACT	This is a verifiable historical fact.
2	The U.S. Constitution was signed in 1787.	FACT	This date can be checked in historical records.
3	School uniforms make students look neat.	OPINION	Whether uniforms look neat is a personal judgment.
4	Abraham Lincoln was the 16th U.S. president.	FACT	This can be verified in records of U.S. presidents.
5	History is more exciting than science.	OPINION	What is more exciting depends on the person.
6	Visiting a museum is a boring way to spend Saturday.	OPINION	Whether a museum visit is boring is a personal feeling.
7	The Statue of Liberty is in New York Harbor.	FACT	Its location can be checked on a map or in reliable sources.
8	Everyone should learn to play an instrument.	OPINION	This states a belief about what people should do.

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 the largest ocean on Earth.
- **OPINION:** Reading mysteries is more fun than reading biographies.

Challenge: **OPINION:** Independence Hall is one of the most important places in U.S. history. **FACT:** The Declaration of Independence was adopted at Independence Hall in Philadelphia in 1776.

For Part 2, accept explanations that name checkable evidence for a fact or personal belief or judgment language for an opinion. Facts can be verified, while opinions may be supported by facts but cannot be proved true for everyone.