



PBS NEWSHOUR

STUDENT REPORTING LABS

Lesson 2.3 Facts vs Opinions: Worksheet A

Warm Up Activity

We asked real journalists what their definition of the words “fact”, “opinion” and “informed opinion” were. As a class pick and choose from the responses below to come up with your own class definition which you will use during this lesson and in your journalism career.

Definition 1

Source: April Brown- PBS NewsHour Coordinating Producer

Fact – something that can be proven true

Opinion-thoughts on a subject, not necessarily informed by fact, often informed by emotion

Informed Opinion-thoughts on a subject by someone who is familiar with facts, studies, trends or first-hand experience

Definition 2

Source: Allison McCartney- PBS Newshour Extra Editor

Fact – a statement, whether it is quantitative or qualitative, that can be proven with evidence

Opinion – a person’s worldview, applied to a specific situation

Informed opinion – a person’s worldview when applied to, or incorporating, facts

Definition 3

(Source: [Merriam-Webster Dictionary](#))

Facts- a piece of information presented as having objective reality

Opinion- a belief, judgment, or way of thinking about something

Informed Opinion- based on possession of information + a belief, judgment, or way of thinking about something