

A world map is shown in a light blue and white color scheme. A large, semi-transparent red rectangle is overlaid on the map, centered over the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. Inside this red rectangle is a white-bordered box containing the main title and subtitle. The map also features several small red and grey dots scattered across the continents, representing specific locations or data points.

How Can We Heal Our Humanity?

Module 1:
Perspectives: Various
modes of understanding
& exploration of bias and
source

Welcome!

[This is module 1 of my *How Can We Heal Our Humanity* unit.](#)

In this unit, you will engage with various texts, reflect, analyze, engage in critical thinking, and complete a series of tasks.

You will find content and tasks embedded throughout the module via hyperlink (including the [link](#) above, which you should use to access the most up-to-date version of [this document](#) via Google).

I have also created each assignment on FreshGrade for you to upload your completed work or you may email my holly.norris@gmail.com account. (Please remember to make copies of google docs if you are completing them digitally).

You can also connect with me by calling the school at 250-256-4274 or by email at hjezovit@sd74.bc.ca.

You will be expected to check-in with me on a regular basis and we will establish the best way that I can check-in with you.

HOW CAN WE HEAL OUR HUMANITY?

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY
INQUIRY UNIT

GRADES: MIDDLE SCHOOL +

Curricular Areas:

- Socials
- English
- Health



HOST TEACHER/DESIGNER

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WHAT TO EXPECT

This unit will be delivered in four Modules via Google Slides.

Students will be encouraged to explore a variety of ideas and concepts about our world and society, engage in critical thought and response, and will create personal works to demonstrate understanding and awareness.

Internet access is encouraged, but not required.

MODULE 1

Perspectives: Various modes of understanding & exploration of bias and source

MODULE 2

Communication & Conflict

MODULE 3

Wellness in the New World:
Needs vs Wants

MODULE 4

Empathy & Connection

ASSESSMENT

Students can expect regular check-ins, feedback, and major tasks/assignments will have criteria driven rubrics.

Students will submit work via FreshGrade.

BIG IDEAS

- How to be empathetic toward each other
- What does authentic connection look like and feel like
- Ways to resolve disagreements without conflict
- How to develop and strengthen our authentic voices
- How to understand a perspective that is different than your own
- Exploring the ideas of caring and wellness



LITERACY TASKS

We will explore journaling, articles, informative texts, poetry and creative texts.

During a crisis.

Talk to people you trust.

Think about reaching out to friends and family or your community.

Remember we are all here for you!

This is an unprecedented situation. We will all figure this out together. I am here for you. We all are! If you need anything, reach out and we will do our best to connect you.

We realize that this has been a challenging time for learners. We want you to know that our staff misses you dearly. We are committed to supporting you through this unfamiliar experience in anyway we can and will be reaching out often.

First and foremost, we want to know that you are safe, cared for, and taking all the necessary precautions to help put this difficult period beyond us: Wherever possible, stay home. Follow the physical distances guidelines of 2 meters.

- ★ Wash your hands!

Looking at Learning:

- ★ Choose coursework that aligns with your subject area of interest/need, and is meaningful, motivating, and engaging.
- ★ Finish the units that you start in a timely manner.
- ★ Do as much coursework as you can.
- ★ Connect with teaching staff often.



#CALLME #EMAILME

**LET'S GET
STARTED!**

Remember to check your email regularly!

Understanding Bias

What is Bias?

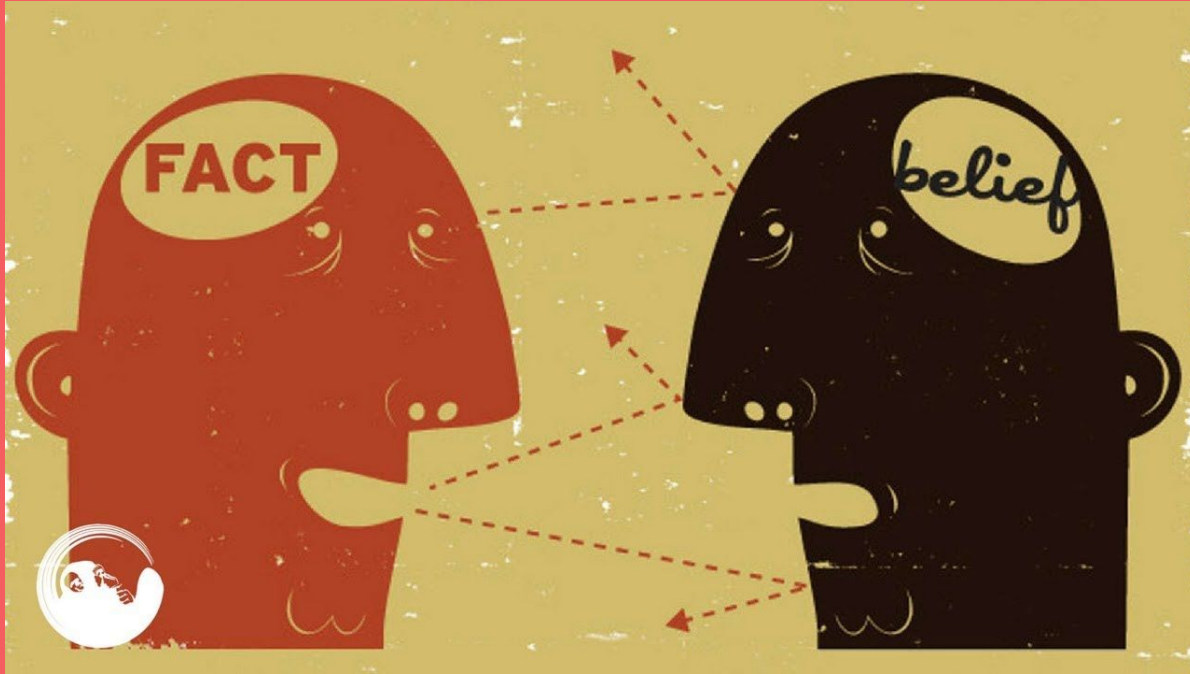
This is how the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary defines bias:

BENT , TENDENCY: an inclination of temperament or outlook; especially: a personal and sometimes unreasoned judgment: PREJUDICE: an instance of such prejudice i.e., (1): deviation of the expected value of a statistical estimate from the quantity it estimates (2): systematic error introduced into sampling or testing by selecting or encouraging one outcome or answer over others.

or from Roget's II: The New Thesaurus, Third Edition: Exhibiting bias: biased, one-sided, partisan, prejudiced, prejudicial, prepossessed, tendentious. See LIKE, STRAIGHT. 2. Disposed to favor one over another: favorable, preferential.

- When it comes to modern media like news, advertising and the Internet, bias on demand has become the profession of spin-doctors who specialize in spinning anything negative into something positive.

Bias



How do we recognize bias?

What are some indicators of bias on a webpage?

1. The language of the document is often extreme; statements have all or nothing connotations.
 2. The argument appeals more to the emotions than to logic.
 3. Things are worded with the intent to oversimplify or over generalize.
 4. The author wishes to present a limited view of the topic.
 5. You should expect bias on webpages that are dedicated to selling you something. Additionally, webpages dedicated to controversial topics are likely to have a bias.
-

The Types of Unconscious Bias We Need to Address



Beauty Bias



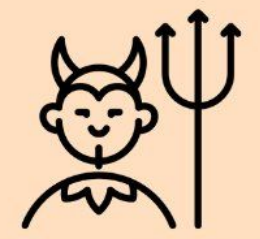
Judging people based on how they look.

Affinity Bias



Hiring people the same as ourselves.

Horns Effect



Negative assumptions cloud our judgement.

Confirmation Bias



Searching for evidence to back up first impressions.

Attribution Bias



How we perceive the actions of others.

Conformity Bias



Changing opinions to conform with the group.

Halo Effect



Perceived as having more positive traits than others.

Why should we check for bias?

Would you trust information unsupported by facts or logical reasoning? A biased author may not pay attention to all the facts or develop a logical argument to support his or her opinions.

Bias is when a statement reflects a partiality, preference, or prejudice for or against a person, object, or idea. Much of what you read and hear expresses a bias.

Bias is when a writer or speaker uses a selection of facts, choice of words, and the quality and tone of description, to convey a particular feeling or attitude.

Its purpose is to convey a certain attitude or point of view toward the subject. As you read or listen to biased materials, keep the following questions in mind:

- ★ What facts has the author omitted?
- ★ What additional information is necessary?
- ★ What words create positive or negative impressions?
- ★ What impression would I have if different words had been used?

Biased information tries to change your mind, how you think. Being aware of bias and knowing how to identify, analyze, and assimilate biased information properly is a skill to be treasured. It puts you in charge of how you think instead of the print and media world



What are some indicators of bias?

The language of the document is often extreme; statements have all or nothing connotations.

The argument appeals more to the emotions than to logic.

Things are worded with the intent to oversimplify or over generalize.

The author wishes to present a limited view of the topic.

You should expect bias on webpages that are dedicated to selling you something.

- ★ Additionally, webpages dedicated to controversial topics are likely to have a bias.

Questions to keep in mind as you seek indicators of bias:

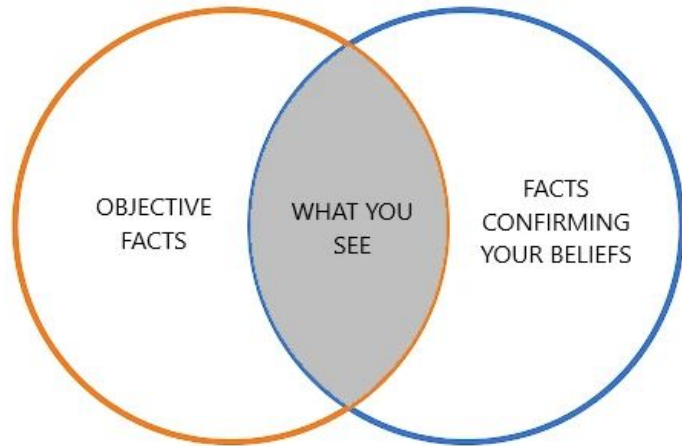
- ★ What is the author's political point of view?
- ★ What does the author stand to gain?
- ★ Who is paying for the website?
- ★ Does the author present alternate points of view?
 - If so, are those views presented objectively, or with scorn?



Check-in Point!

Review *Task 1: Identifying Bias* and connect with Ms. J on your learning, understanding, and task expectations.





Task 1: Identifying Bias

[Click here](#) to download the .pdf task for this section.

Worldview

Understanding personal worldview

View YouTube video [What's Your Worldview?](#)

[Make notes](#) on what is meaningful about life to you. (This will help you in your journal task).

Write a definition of 'worldview' in your own words.

Answer the following
BIG QUESTIONS OF LIFE:

- ★ Does God exist?
- ★ How did everything begin?
- ★ Who am I?
- ★ Why am I here?
- ★ Am I living a good life?
- ★ What happens after I die?

Indigenous vs Western Worldviews

View the YouTube video:

[The Indigenous worldview vs. Western worldview](#)

Consider the following:

- ★ Who are the three most wealthiest people in the world?
- ★ What does it mean for the people of the world if those three individuals have more combined wealth than the total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the 47 poorest countries?
- ★ Create a T-Chart and list 3 aspects Indigenous Worldview vs Western Worldview
- ★ Write a paragraph about which values match your own and why.

Submit your work via FreshGrade.



Check-in Point!

Connect with Ms. J to discuss worldview, and review your notes and questions before you begin your *Journal Task 1: Biases & Worldview*.



Journal Task 1:

Biases & Worldview

Write a one (1) page journal entry on your thoughts about bias and your own personal worldview.

Questions to consider:

Where do you see biases in your everyday life?
(Consider media, news, ads, social media, etc.)

Describe your personal worldview and how it affects your own biases and ways of understanding the world?

Reflect on a time where you were the subject of bias or when you observed bias in your own life.

Submit your work via FreshGrade and access the assessment [rubric here](#).

