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# Introduction

Each book in the *Power Practice™* series contains dozens of ready-to-use activity pages to provide students with skill practice. Use these fun activities to supplement and enhance what you are already teaching in the classroom. Give an activity page to students as class work, or send the pages home as homework to reinforce skills taught in class. An answer key is provided for quick reference.

The first half of this book provides students with practice in identifying and distinguishing between fact and opinion. These important skills help readers understand and apply these concepts: both facts and opinions should be subject to a reader's judgment (statements of facts can be correct or incorrect and opinions can be well supported or poorly supported); some opinions may mislead readers either intentionally or unintentionally (readers should be wary of opinions that are disguised as facts); and readers should have defined

criteria that helps them evaluate facts and opinions. Students use the developmentally appropriate activities and reading passages in this section to hone their fact and opinion skills and become better all-around readers.

The second half of this book helps students understand and use cause and effect. Good readers recognize and think about cause and effect to help them comprehend many kinds of text, including the following: nonfiction text that focuses on a search for answers; fiction that requires readers to understand characters' motivations; and content-related text in subjects such as science. The reproducibles in this section give students ample practice in developing these important skills that will elevate reading comprehension.

Use the ready-to-go activities to "recharge" skill review and give students the power to succeed.

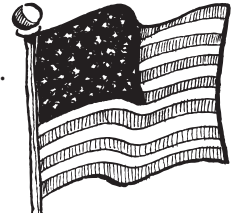


# All-American Facts

A **fact** is a statement that can be proven. You can prove a fact true by observing, reading, or asking an expert or a witness.

Read each fact. Write one way that you can check each fact and prove it true. Do not use the same idea twice.

**EXAMPLE** The Statue of Liberty stands on Liberty Island in New York City Harbor.  
I could look up Liberty Island on the Internet and read about what is there.



1 Jake's family visited Mount Rushmore in March of last year.

I could \_\_\_\_\_.

2 The bald eagle became our national bird on June 20, 1782.

I could \_\_\_\_\_.

3 The Liberty Bell rang in 1776 to declare our independence from England.

I could \_\_\_\_\_.

4 There are 13 stripes on the United States flag.

I could \_\_\_\_\_.

5 The Washington Monument was built to honor our first president.

I could \_\_\_\_\_.

6 Francis Scott Key wrote "The Star Spangled Banner."

I could \_\_\_\_\_.

7 Mount McKinley is located in Denali National Park in Alaska.

I could \_\_\_\_\_.

# Check It Out!

The place you go to check a fact is called a **source**. Good readers know how to use sources and check facts. There are many kinds of sources.

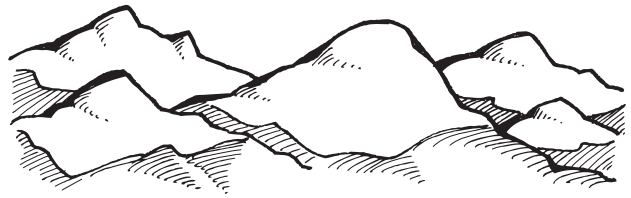
Read each statement of fact. Write down a source you could check to make sure each statement is correct.

- 1 Fact:** Louis Pasteur was a French scientist who made important medical discoveries.



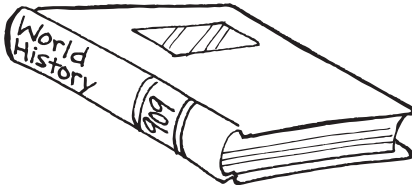
The source I would use to verify the fact is \_\_\_\_\_.

- 2 Fact:** The Andes mountain range is in South America.



The source I would use to verify the fact is \_\_\_\_\_.

- 3 Fact:** In the Dewey Decimal System, nonfiction books about history are found in the 900s.



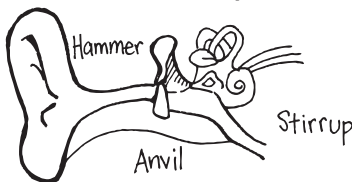
The source I would use to verify the fact is \_\_\_\_\_.

- 4 Fact:** Frederick Douglass worked to end slavery in the United States.



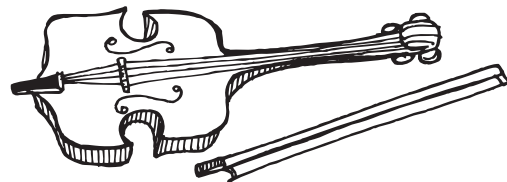
The source I would use to verify the fact is \_\_\_\_\_.

- 5 Fact:** The middle ear contains three tiny bones called the hammer, the anvil, and the stirrup.



The source I would use to verify the fact is \_\_\_\_\_.

- 6 Fact:** When facing the stage, the violin section of the orchestra is to the viewer's left.



The source I would use to verify the fact is \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Just the Facts

Remember, **facts** are statements that can be proven true. Someone should be able to read, observe, or ask an expert to make sure your facts are accurate.

Choose a scientist from the Word Box. Use a source to find four facts about the scientist and his or her work. Write the facts on the lines.

Thomas Edison  
Albert Einstein

George Washington Carver  
Rachel Carson

Marie Curie  
An Wang

Scientist I Chose: \_\_\_\_\_.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

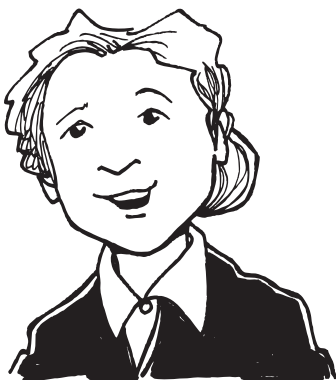
\_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Westward Expansion

Write a **fact** about each topic. Be sure to verify it with a source, such as a textbook or the Internet.

1 newspaper editor Horace Greeley

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2 California Gold Rush

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3 Pony Express

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4 Dodge City in the 1800s

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5 1862 Homestead Act

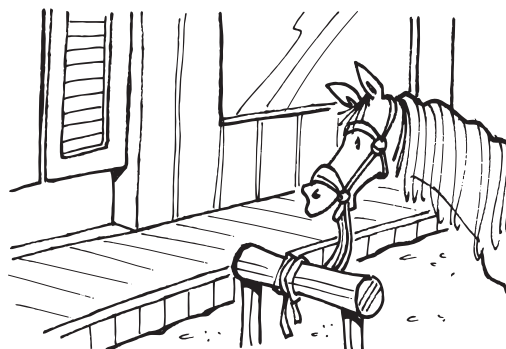
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6 Chief Joseph

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# Faces from History

An **opinion** is a statement that tells how a person feels or thinks about something. It cannot be proven true or false.

Read each sentence. Circle **O** if the sentence is an opinion. Circle **NO** if the sentence is not an opinion.

**EXAMPLE** George Washington was our most important president.

☒ **O**      **NO**

**1** I think Martin Luther King Jr. was a great leader.

☐ **O**      **NO**

**2** Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to move to the back of a bus.

☐ **O**      **NO**

**3** I believe Pocahontas was very daring to meet John Smith.

☐ **O**      **NO**

**4** I'm sure Christopher Columbus and his crew felt worried before they saw land.

☐ **O**      **NO**

**5** Sally Ride was the first American woman in space.

☐ **O**      **NO**

**6** Benjamin Franklin was the most creative man of his time.

☐ **O**      **NO**

**7** Thomas Jefferson was the third president of the United States.

☐ **O**      **NO**

**8** John Hancock was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence.

☐ **O**      **NO**



# Agree or Not?

Because people often have different feelings or ideas, two people might have **different opinions** about the same experience.

Read each opinion. Write *I agree* or *I disagree* on the line after each sentence. Rewrite an opinion if you do not agree with it.

- 1 Soccer is the best sport. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 My favorite subject in school is spelling. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Red is my favorite color. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 Lemonade is the most refreshing drink. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 I think everyone should read *The Indian in the Cupboard*. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 I believe bacon is the tastiest breakfast food. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 Florida is the greatest vacation spot. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.



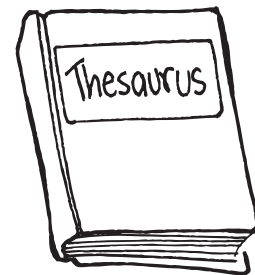
# Signal the Opinion

Some words give **clues** about a person's **feelings, beliefs, or judgments**. These clues tell a reader that someone is stating an opinion rather than a fact.

Use a thesaurus to find a synonym for each opinion clue word. Use the original word or the synonym in an opinion sentence.

**EXAMPLE** I *like* swimming.  
Jason *should* take piano lessons.  
Kendra is the *best* singer.

I *think* Margo needs help.  
My *favorite* food is pizza.



1 think synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2 like synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3 dislike synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4 should synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5 important synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6 best synonym: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Find the Clues

Remember, some words give **clues** about a person's **feelings, beliefs, or judgments**. These clues tell a reader that someone is stating an opinion rather than a fact.

Read each sentence. Underline the clue words that signal a person's opinion.

- 1 I believe kittens are cuter than dogs.
- 2 Sam adores seal pups with big brown eyes.
- 3 I detest boiled sugar beets.
- 4 Raj is the best runner in the fourth grade.
- 5 I prefer playing baseball rather than basketball.
- 6 The rainstorm was terrible.
- 7 Vince should try out for the school play.
- 8 Po thinks math is fun.
- 9 Saturday was the worst day of the week.
- 10 My favorite writer is E. B. White.



## CHALLENGE

Choose three clue words from above. Write three opinions using the words.

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