

## Multiple Perspectives Lesson Guidelines

**Purpose:** To help students understand the historical concepts of multiple perspectives, biases, and points of view. Students will discuss, take notes and practice these concepts in a classroom activity.

**Materials:** History notebook, graphic organizers (see attached)

### Procedures:

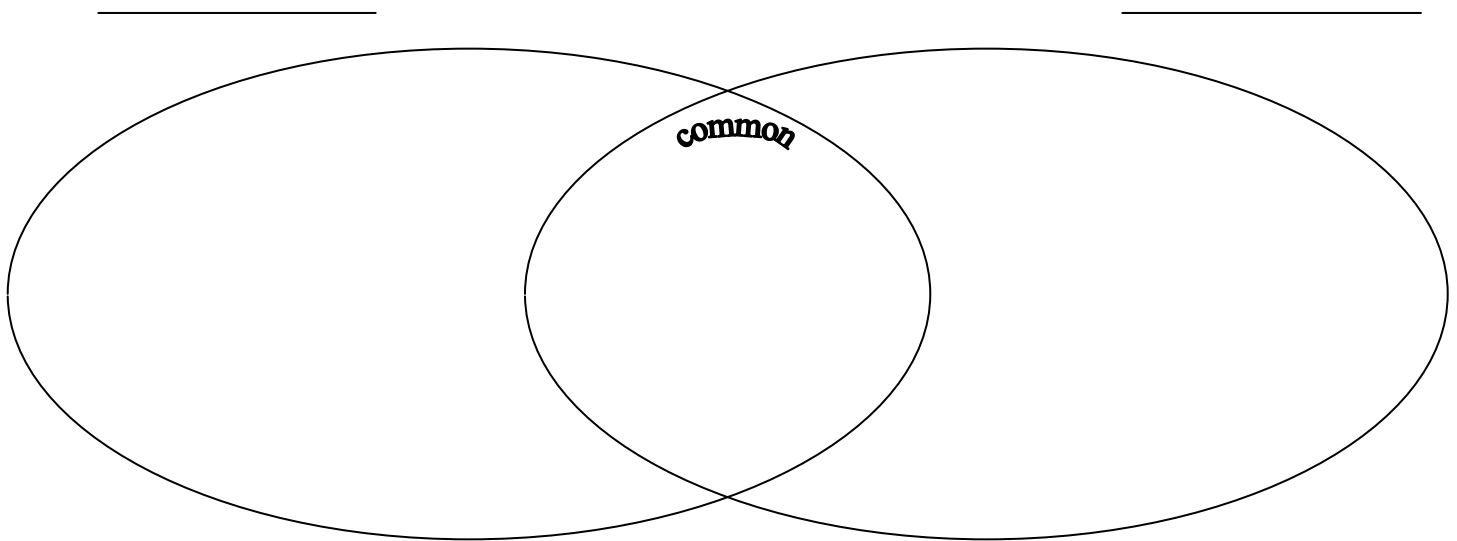
1. Complete the preview activity. Students write a short paragraph or make a sketch depicting how they felt entering their new classroom for the first time.
2. Class shares a variety of paragraphs or sketches and students explain to the class how they felt and why. (Students should begin to recognize the many different points of view in our classroom, even though the event was the same for everyone)
3. Class discussion on why people have different points of view / perspectives.
4. Pose the question: Whose perspective is right or correct or accurate? Discuss.
5. Point out that what we have just done is what historians do all the time. (Analyze an event from many different perspectives to gain a better understanding of the event.)
6. Note taking Page:
  - a. Define key terms: multiple perspectives, bias, and point of view
  - b. Discuss and take notes on the job of historians. (See page 2 of lesson)
7. Students complete the Venn diagram activity comparing their feelings from their paragraphs or sketches from the preview activity. (Model the use of Venn diagrams)
8. Share and briefly discuss
9. Students complete the lesson by explaining in their own words what it means to consider multiple perspectives in history.
10. Share final statements.

## Multiple Perspectives in History

**Preview:** Write a paragraph or make a sketch explaining how you felt as you entered our classroom on the first day of school. Include at least 3 different feelings or emotions. Label your sketches and be sure to explain why you felt the way you did.

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**Activity:** With your partner, fill in the Venn diagram showing what feelings you had in common, and your feelings that were different.



In your own words, write a short paragraph explaining what it means to consider multiple perspectives of an historical event.

## Multiple Perspectives in History: Notes

### Key Words:

Multiple Perspectives:

Bias:

Point of View:

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### What do historians do to understand a historical event?

*Historians .....*

- Study an event from all points of views
- Put themselves in the “shoes” of the people who were actually at the event, and they try to understand how those people felt. (examples)
- Question why people think the way they do? (examples)
- Question the biases and motives of the people who write or talk about historical events? (examples)
- Question whether a person’s point of view is accurate and correct?
- Try to understand other points of views (Multiple Perspectives). They try to understand views that are different from their own. (examples)