

Detecting Bias

Part 1. Class Analysis

Instructions: Think about the statement below. Then, as the class discusses the questions that follow, jot down your answers and ideas.

School lunch is always terrible, and students should pack lunch from home instead.

1.	Which words in the statement are absolute or extreme?
2.	What assumptions does the statement make about school food?
3.	How might the author's personal experience or opinion shape this message?
4.	Are perspectives or facts left out? If so, where they?

Name: Date:

Part 2. Group Analysis		
Instructions: Your group has been assigned a different statement. Work together to analyze it using the questions that follow. After your analysis is complete, revise your assigned statement and then respond to the reflection questions.		
Assig	ned Statement	
1.	What is your group's initial reaction to the statement?	
2.	What words feel extreme, emotional, or biased?	
3.	What assumptions are made?	
4.	What perspectives or facts are missing?	
5.	Now work together to revise your assigned statement to make it more balanced and objective. Think about replacing biased words, adding missing perspectives, and avoiding assumptions.	
Revis	ed Version	

Personal Reflection
How does changing the language of a statement change its meaning or tone?
How might you use these strategies when reading or sharing information online or in everyday conversations?