



The Lexile Framework for Reading in Action

Fact or Opinion

- Pre-Reading
- During Reading
- Post Reading

Task Suggestion: For Georgia Performance Standard S7L4, utilize the resource titled, ‘The Secret Life of a Tree in the Rain Forest.’ (1140L) and ask students to complete a Fact or Opinion activity.

Description: Fact or Opinion offers students an opportunity to think critically as they read, determining whether pieces of information from the text should be classified as fact or opinion.

How It Works: As students read, they are to record various pieces of information they encounter as being either fact or opinion. Students are reminded that a fact is a statement that can be proven or has been objectively verified. An opinion, on the other hand, is a personal belief that may not be confirmed as either true or false. In most cases, opinions represent a personal preference or belief on a topic. Though it is often acceptable to blend opinion and fact in writing, it is critical that a reader be able to distinguish fact from opinion. The inability to distinguish between fact and opinion may lead to a misunderstanding of the topic.

How It Can Be Used: Fact or Opinion can be useful across all content areas, though it is most relevant when applied to text that demonstrates a variety of both fact and opinion to portray the material.

- ◆ Fact and Opinion is best used for texts that are at or slightly below a student’s Lexile measure.
- ◆ After reading, students can discuss why they think the opinions were included and how they may have affected the reader.