

UNDERSTANDING MEDIA BIAS

MINI-RESEARCH PROJECT FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS

Media Bias Mini-Research Project Rubric

CATEGORY	3	2	1	0
SOURCE SELECTION SCORE X 1 = /3	At least 3 sources were chosen. Sources included one each from the left, right, and center.	At least 3 sources were chosen. However, sources did not represent left, right, and center.	Fewer than 3 sources were chosen. Sources did not represent perspectives from left, right, and center.	No sources were chosen OR sources were chosen but all represented the same bias.
SOURCE CHART SCORE X 2 = /6	Notes were taken appropriately for all 3 sources. Student recorded source name, article title & link, bias, and key info.	Notes were taken appropriately for 2 sources. Student recorded source name, article title & link, bias, and key info.	Notes were taken appropriately for all 1 source. Student recorded source name, article title & link, bias, and key info.	Student did not show evidence of an attempt to complete the Source Chart.
SOURCE COMMONALITIES SCORE X 2 = /6	Source Commonalities worksheet was completed appropriately with info consistent across 2 and 3 articles.	Source Commonalities worksheet contains info consistent across 2 and 3 articles but is missing components (quotes, summary, source names, etc.).	Student completed only 1 of the two charts on the Source Commonalities worksheet.	Student did not show evidence of an attempt to complete the Source Commonalities worksheet.
ARGUMENT PIECE	Organized, effective argument presented	Argument presented using only evidence	Argument presented but uses evidence that	Student did not show evidence of an

Name: _____

Research Topic: _____

Media Bias Mini-Research Project

GOAL: To build a research-based argument while using critical media literacy skills.

DIRECTIONS:

- Select a modern "controversial issue" that you would like to research. Some ideas are listed below, but you are not limited to these topics! See procon.org for further inspiration.
 - Climate change
 - Book banning/censorship in schools
 - Student loan forgiveness
 - Immigration reform
 - Healthcare access
 - GMOs
 - Facial recognition technology use by law enforcement
 - Artificial intelligence in the workforce
 - Daylight Savings Time
 - Minimum wage
- Using one of the media bias charts provided ([All Sides](#) or [Ad Fontes](#)), find at least 3 articles about your topic. Each article must be from a different source, and you must have one of each of the following sources represented:
 - Source that leans right
 - Source that leans left
 - Source that is in the center
- Complete the "Source Chart" worksheet as you read each article. Take notes on key information, and be sure to pay particular attention to any statistics mentioned.
- After reading all of your articles and taking notes, complete the "Source Commonalities" worksheet. Here, you will identify the information that remained consistent between your articles.
- Using only the information identified in your "Source Commonalities" worksheet, create a brief argument piece about your topic. You may present your argument via writing (Google Docs), slide deck (Google Slides/Canva), or video (Flipgrid).

DUE DATE: _____

SURVIVING in
secondary

WHY WILL YOU (AND YOUR STUDENTS) FALL IN LOVE WITH THIS RESOURCE?

- ✓ Low-prep
- ✓ Modern & relevant
- ✓ Easy to use
- ✓ Promotes student voice



Name: _____ Research Topic: _____

Source Commonalities

1. In this table, list information that was consistent between **TWO** of your articles. For each piece of information, provide the name and bias leaning of each source and document the information as it is listed in each source (copy & paste is fine). Add more rows as needed.

Summary of Info	Source 1	Source 2
	Name: Bias: Quote:	Name: Bias: Quote:
	Name: Bias: Quote:	Name: Bias: Quote:

2. In this table, list information that was consistent between **ALL THREE** of your articles. For each piece of information, provide the name and bias leaning of each source and document the information as it is listed in each source (copy & paste is fine). Add more rows as needed.

PLEASE NOTE: Google Drive REQUIRED

