



## **INFO SHEET #2: BIASES AND PREJUDICES**

### **MELC:**

Differentiate biases from prejudices

### **Objectives**

At the end of the lesson, the learners are expected to:

1. differentiate bias from prejudices
2. identify bias and prejudice from statements; and
3. determine situations that depict biases and prejudices.

### **Key Information**

#### **BIAS and PREJUDICE**

An important skill of critical reading is the ability to detect an author's bias and prejudice. The reason you need to be able to do this, of course, is that bias and prejudice may invalidate an author's claim.

● **Bias** means a tendency to favor one person, group, thing or point of view over another, often in an unfair way.

Example: Female teachers give more attention to girls.  
She won the contest because her father is one of the judges.

● **Prejudice** is an unfavorable opinion or feeling formed beforehand or without knowledge, thought or reason. It simply means to prejudge others before knowing them. Moreover, it is an unjustified or incorrect attitude (usually negative) towards an individual based solely on the individual's membership of a social group.

Example:  
You did not include your classmates in your group because she looks utterly different. It is sometimes assumed that one who is physically disabled is also mentally disabled.

**There are several ways to detect an author's possible bias and prejudice, for example:**

1. the author uses inflammatory language: in the most extreme cases, racial epithets, slurs, etc. (prejudice);
2. the author consistently makes claims whose larger purpose is to elevate (or demean) one social, ethnic, national, religious, or gender group as compared to another, or all others (prejudice);
3. the author consciously presents evidence that serves to tell only one side of an event or issue, purposefully withholding or ignoring information that may shed the opposing view in a more positive light (bias);
4. the author manufactures, falsifies and/or dishonestly cites evidence in order to present his or her case in a more positive light (bias)

**Prejudice** is normally used in the context of having an unjustified or incorrect view against something, whilst bias is normally used in the same context but is a view in favor of something. The common phrases of "he's prejudiced against 'X'" and "he's biased towards 'X'" are illustrative of this.

#### References:

Bias/Prejudice. (n.d.). Retrieved January 22, 2021, from <https://qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/writing/history/critical/bias.html> Sawyer, I. (2017). What is the difference between prejudice and bias? Retrieved January 22, 2021, from <https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-difference-between-prejudice-and-bias>



**DIVISION OF GEN. TRIAS CITY**

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**Suggested Performance Task:**

Collaborative Task:

**Role play situations showing biases and prejudices in the following places/scenarios:**

- A. Home
- B. School
- C. Hospital
- D. Mall
- E. Restaurant