

WISCONSIN BIOGRAPHIES

Purpose: Comparing Texts

Task:

Students will evaluate a set of texts in order to compare and contrast themes and facts.

Sample Essential Question:

What is the value of using different sources?

Standards:

Wisconsin Social Studies Standards

- SS.Hist1.a.i Use evidence to draw conclusions about probable causes of historical events, issues, and problems.
- SS.Hist1.b.i Use evidence to draw conclusions about probable effects of historical events, issues, and problems.

Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts

- RI.4.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text
- RI.4.5 Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text
- RI.4.9 Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably

Materials:

Animated videos, books/ebooks, and resources from WisconsinBiographies.org

Comparing Texts worksheet (attached)

Directions:

1. Have each student choose a story from the Wisconsin Biographies series.
2. Instruct students to watch the animated video of the person.
3. Next, students should write a theme and a chronological list of events on the *Comparing Texts* worksheet.
4. Tell students to read the corresponding biography and repeat step three.
5. Have the students find a third source (examples listed on WisconsinBiographies.org Resource page) and repeat step three.
6. Independently or in small groups, have students prepare a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting the themes and information learned while evaluating the texts. Share the Venn diagrams with the class.
7. As a class, discuss the value of using different sources.

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Comparing Texts

Name _____

Video Story	Biography	Other Source