

Biased or Unbiased?

Directions: Read the passages below. Decide if they are biased or unbiased. Underline any clues in the passage that make you feel that way and explain your reasoning on the lines below the passage.

1. The semi-professional football team, the Cleveland Warthogs, deserve a spot in the playoffs. This year, the Warthogs have had an outstanding season with a 5-6 record. Even though they've lost a few games, they've played with intensity and love of the game. Each player practiced hard this year and the team deserves a chance to show that they can win in the playoffs.

Biased? _____ Unbiased? _____

Reasons I think this: _____

2. People who use their cell phones in public places should be given tickets for disturbing the peace. No one wants to listen to another person's private conversation while waiting in a check out line or sitting in a movie theater. The police should issue tickets to people who are inconsiderate with their cell phones.

Biased? _____ Unbiased? _____

Reasons I think this: _____

3. A regulation soccer field means that players will be running, potentially a lot, during a game. Soccer players should be in good health to endure the physical demands of the game.

Biased? _____ Unbiased? _____

Reasons I think this: _____

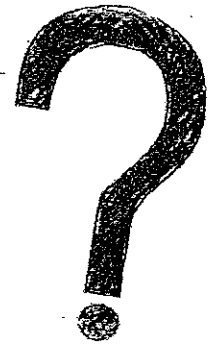
4. Vegetarians do not eat meat. A person on a vegetarian diet may eat eggs and dairy products. A vegan, however, eats no animal products including meat, fish, eggs, dairy, and even honey.

Biased? _____ Unbiased? _____

Reasons I think this: _____

Name _____

Class _____



What do I understand about bias?

Reflect on your learning by answering the following questions:

1. What does it mean to write with bias? _____

2. What clues should you look for to determine if something is biased? _____

3. Why should a reader be aware of biased writing? _____

4. What happens to a writer's credibility when he or she uses bias? _____

5. What is the purpose of bias? Can it be beneficial? _____

6. What did you discover about bias through this activity? _____

