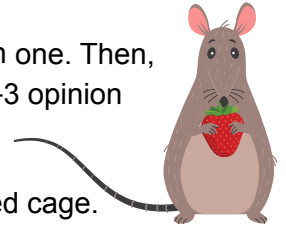


Name: _____

Date: _____

COMPARING FACTS and OPINIONS

A. Instructions: Read the following passages. Underline the opinion statements in each one. Then, decide if the source is *trustworthy* (0-1 opinion statements), *somewhat trustworthy* (2-3 opinion statements) or *not trustworthy* (4-5 opinion statements).



1. Rats are wonderful pets. They are small enough to carry and keep in a medium-sized cage. Rats can eat most fruits and vegetables as well as their rat food. Everyone should get a rat because they're the best pet ever! _____

2. All politicians are liars. You can't believe anything a politician says because they're just trying to get your vote. If you find yourself agreeing with a politician, you're definitely making a mistake. Politicians lie, cheat and steal to make the world suit them best. They only care about money and power, not helping the people who voted for them. _____

3. There are 50 states in the United States of America. The first state was Delaware, followed by Pennsylvania and New Jersey in 1787. They were three of the 13 original colonies of New England. The final states to be admitted to the United States were Alaska and Hawaii in 1959. Now the American flag has 50 stars to symbolize its 50 states. _____



B. Instructions: Write your own trustworthy paragraph about any topic you're interested in. Be sure to include mostly factual statements instead of opinions.



Answer Key: COMPARING FACTS and OPINIONS

A. Instructions: Read the following passages. Underline the opinion statements in each one. Then, decide if the source is *trustworthy* (0-1 opinion statements), *somewhat trustworthy* (2-3 opinion statements) or *not trustworthy* (4-5 opinion statements).

1. Rats are wonderful pets. They are small enough to carry and keep in a medium-sized cage. Rats can eat most fruits and vegetables as well as their rat food. Everyone should get a rat because they're the best pet ever! Somewhat trustworthy (2 opinion statements)

2. All politicians are liars. You can't believe anything a politician says because they're just trying to get your vote. If you find yourself agreeing with a politician, you're definitely making a mistake. Politicians lie, cheat and steal to make the world suit them best. They only care about money and power, not helping the people who voted for them. Not trustworthy (5 opinion statements)

3. There are 50 states in the United States of America. The first state was Delaware, followed by Pennsylvania and New Jersey in 1787. They were three of the 13 original colonies of New England. The final states to be admitted to the United States were Alaska and Hawaii in 1959. Now the American flag has 50 stars to symbolize its 50 states. Trustworthy (0 opinion statements)

B. Instructions: Write your own trustworthy paragraph about any topic you're interested in. Be sure to include mostly factual statements instead of opinions.

(answers will vary)
