

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 Model Academic Standards: Social Studies

- B.4.1 Identify and examine various sources of information that are used for constructing an understanding of the past, such as artifacts, documents, letters, diaries, maps, textbooks, photos, paintings, architecture, oral presentations, graphs, and charts

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.



WISCONSIN BIOGRAPHIES

Comparing Texts

Name _____

Video Story	Biography	Other Source

