

# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

# Objectives

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The students will be able to identify the type of bias or other fallacy in a social studies example by using critical thinking skills.

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The students will be able to explain why this example is biased or contains a fallacy.

# 3 main fallacies

## Bias

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## Correlation is not causation

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## Random chance

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# Bias

An opinion or thought not based on evidence or experience



# Bias

An opinion or thought not based on evidence or experience

-Could include a group

-Could include more information or withhold information to persuade the reader

## Example

Nothing effective resulted from any war.

# Opinion

A thought or feeling based on reasons

## Example

The American Revolutionary War was the greatest war because it guaranteed freedom to the colonists.

VS

Sort

**Bias VS Opinion**

All of the bad things happened in Boston before the war.

The Boston Massacre was devastating as 5 people were killed.

The Boston Massacre occurred when a fight between colonists and British soldiers resulted in 5 colonist deaths. The Boston Massacre was the main reason for the war.

# Social Studies Example

## **Bias**

An opinion or thought not based on evidence or experience

The Great Depression was a period of time that began in 1929 when the Stock Market crashed. For ten years, many people suffered because they couldn't find work. As a result, many people became poor because they did not work very hard. After 10 years, the Great Depression ended.

# Correlation is not causation

Two or more things are related, but  
one does not cause the other

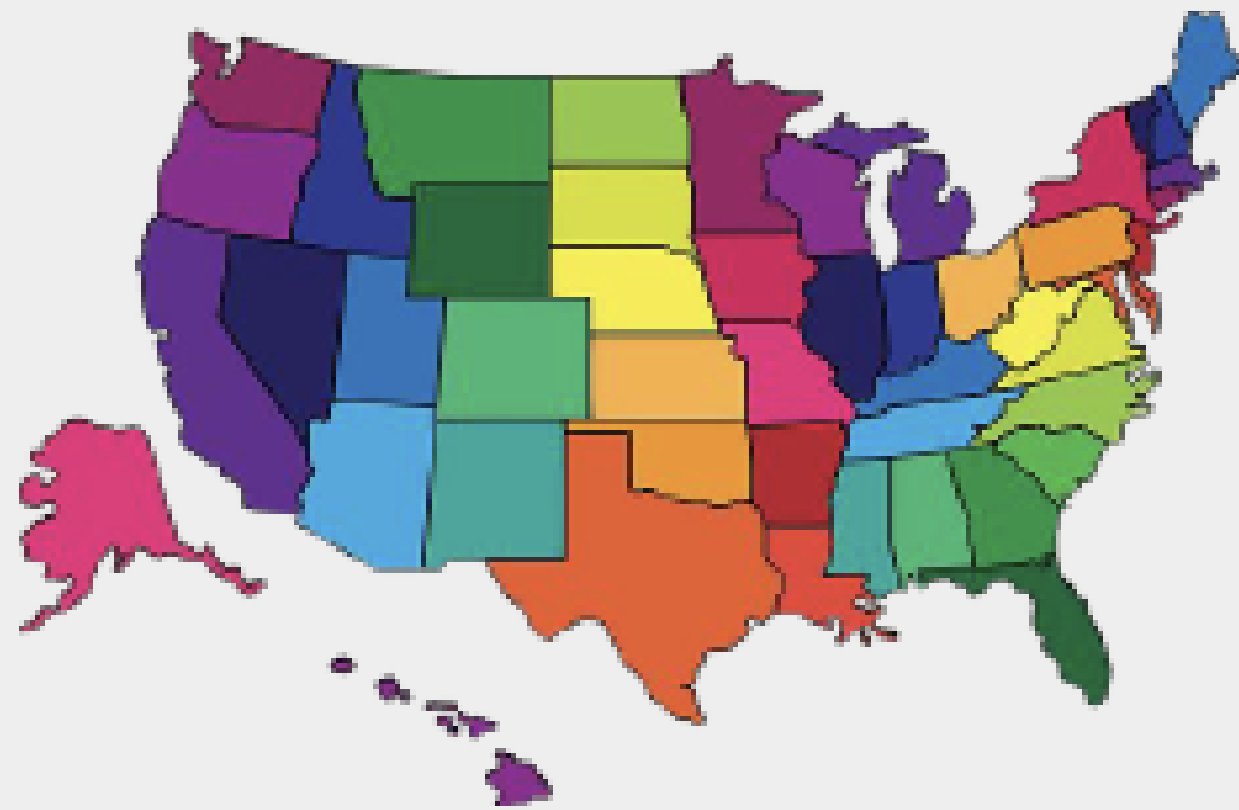




# Choose

All of these things correlate or are connected to the first event. However, only one is the effect to the first event.

**Thomas Jefferson wanted the United States to span from coast to coast.**



**A.** The United States already had many miles of land along the East Coast.

**B.** This desire for more land was known as “Manifest Destiny.”

**C.** The U.S. government purchased Louisiana which added over 800,000 miles of land.

# Social Studies Example

## Correlation is not causation

Two or more things are related, but one does not cause the other

New York City is the biggest city, so it must be the capitol of New York.



# Random chance

A way in which luck or chance occurred for an event to happen with no strategy being involved



# Random Chance

Winning the lottery



Inventions



Being left-handed



# Social Studies Example

## Random Chance

A way in which luck or chance occurred for an event to happen with no strategy being involved

During the Civil War, Union troops found the Confederates' battle plans for the next battle, Antietam. This strategy allowed the Union to win the battle and eventually win the war.



# Review

## Bias

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An opinion or thought not based on evidence or experience

## Correlation is not causation

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Two or more things are related, but one does not cause the other

## Random chance

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A way in which luck or chance occurred for an event to happen with no strategy being involved

