



Fact or Opinion?

We're going batty!

When we're reading or listening, it's important to tune our ears to two kinds of language: objective fact and subjective opinion. **Facts are things that are true and can be proven**, like "*bats are mammals.*" **Opinions are based on what people feel or think**, like "*bats are the cutest animals ever.*"

Below are some sentences about bats. Write "F" next to statements that are facts and "O" next to opinions.

- Bats are the only mammals that can truly fly
- The bat beauty contest is the most exciting animal event.
- Honey Bunches is definitely the cutest bat in the contest.
- In Australia, some bats carry a virus, so it's best not to touch them.
- Bats help the environment by eating insects and pollinating plants.



Honey Bunches is a long eared myotis bat

Pic: Oregon Bureau of Land Management/Emma Busk

1. Underline the opinionated language used by a representative of the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon.

2. Bats are very interesting animals. Why do you think they become a scary symbol on Halloween?



“ Because of its swift flight, Hoary Potter would be... the perfect candidate for seeker on this year's Quidditch team. ”





Negative Definition

Write What It Isn't... To Say What It Is



Here's a great writer's trick. When you're describing something, say what it's **not!** It's a great technique to use when describing an extraordinary person or event. Let's give it a try with the cricket stories we heard this week. What are some words you might use to describe the winners? Add to our ideas:

Happy, proud,

Now, write a list of words that are the opposites of the ones you've just written.

Upset, embarrassed,



You're going to say what the New Zealand cricket team are **NOT**, so that you can emphasise what they are.

Confused? Here's an example using the word "proud" and its opposite "embarrassed" from above.

Unlike the Indian team who were embarrassed to lose on their home ground,

The New Zealanders were very proud winners!

Is this better than just saying "The New Zealanders were very proud winners"? Why or why not?

Your turn! Do the same to say why either 'Fat Bears' or 'Beautiful Bats' are the best.

Words describing bears or bats

Opposite descriptive words

