



Objective or Subjective?

We're going batty!

When we're reading or hearing something, we need to tune our ears to the language of objective fact and the language of subjective opinion. Write "O" next to things that are **objective facts**, and "S" next to **subjective opinions**.

- The hoary bat is known for its swift flight and unique behaviours, like wrapping itself in its tail.
- Bats deserve a contest just as much as any big, lumbering bear.
- Honey Bunches is by far the cutest bat competing this year.
- Some bats in Australia carry a virus, so it's safest not to touch them, even if they're cute.
- Bats are the only mammals that can really fly all by themselves!



Honey Bunches is a long eared myotis bat

Pic: Oregon Bureau of Land Management/ Emma Busk

1. The statement on the right is from a representative of the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon. Is it objective or subjective? Why do you think that?

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



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2. Bats are incredibly helpful animals that eat insects and pollinate plants, but they're also famous Halloween symbols. Why do you think bats have the reputation of being a bit spooky?




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3. Some bats in Australia carry a virus that can make people sick, so it's important to stay safe around them. How could we teach people to be careful without making them scared of bats?

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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 is **not**, in order to give more detail about what it **is**. Confused? Here's an example:

*Unlike the Indians, who were outplayed on their home turf, the New Zealand team displayed strength and determination, leading to their historic win.*

How is that sentence different from this one: "New Zealand played with strength and determination to secure a historic win"?

Now, try using this trick to write a sentence about Tasmania's match against Western Australia. Describe Tasmania's performance by saying what it was not like for WA.

Unlike the Western Australians, who

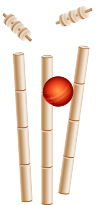
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Words describing bears or bats



Can you do the same to say why either 'Fat Bear Week' or 'The Bat Beauty Contest' is the best.

Unlike \_\_\_\_\_

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Opposite descriptive words

You give it a try. Whom do you really admire? (Maybe it's a friend or mentor like a coach!) What is one of their best qualities? What is the opposite of that? Say what they are **not**, to emphasise who they **are**.

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