

Opinion Uncovered Answer Key

Students should underline or highlight all biased language. Possible examples include:

- “absolute triumph” → Strongly positive, not factual.
- “dreary, crumbling playgrounds” → Negative exaggeration of the old parks.
- “safe and refreshing escape” → Implies opinion about safety and enjoyment.
- “visionary leaders” → Praises leaders instead of describing them neutrally.
- “critics who constantly complain” → Dismissive; judges opposing views.
- “perfect place for relaxation and inspiration” → Assumes everyone experiences it the same way.
- “crown jewel of the entire city” → Overstated praise, not objective.
- “state-of-the-art and dazzling” → Strongly positive, subjective terms.
- “making older parks in nearby towns look embarrassingly outdated” → Biased comparison meant to belittle.
- “brilliant success and a gift” → Emotional, not factual.

1. Why These Show Bias:

- These phrases add judgment or emotional tone instead of sticking to facts.
- They praise or criticize people (leaders as “visionary,” critics as “complainers”).
- They use exaggerated language (“crown jewel,” “brilliant success”) to persuade readers.
- They shape perception rather than report information neutrally.

2. Sample Answer:

- Biased: “The city’s new public park is an absolute triumph of planning and beauty.”
- Neutral: “The city’s new public park was recently completed and includes new walking trails and updated equipment.”

3. The positive words make the park sound impressive and valuable, encouraging readers to agree with the author’s opinion rather than form their own judgment.

4. Recognizing bias helps readers separate facts from opinions so they can think critically, avoid being misled, and make their own informed evaluations.