



Name _____

Different Lenses

Directions: Read both passages below. Each describes the **same event** but from a different viewpoint. Pay attention to the **word choice** and **details included or left out**. Answer the questions to analyze how bias shapes the way the story is told.

Passage A - *Police Perspective*

On Saturday afternoon, police officers responded to a large protest downtown. Demonstrators blocked traffic and disrupted local businesses. Officers reported that some protesters shouted angrily and ignored instructions to move to the sidewalks. To protect public safety, police used crowd-control measures to clear the streets. Authorities emphasized that order was restored quickly and no major injuries occurred.

Passage B - *Protester Perspective*

On Saturday afternoon, community members gathered downtown for a peaceful march calling for change. Participants carried signs, sang, and walked together to raise awareness of their cause. When police arrived, many protesters felt their voices were being silenced. They described the officers' use of force as unnecessary, especially since the protest was mostly calm. Protest leaders stressed that they wanted their message heard, not ignored.

1. What words or phrases in Passage A suggest the police see the protest as a problem?
2. What words or phrases in Passage B show the protesters see the event differently?
3. How is the same event described in two contrasting ways?
4. Why is it important for readers to recognize **bias** in news reports or accounts of events?
5. Which passage seems more sympathetic to the protesters? Which to the police? Explain.