

Name _____



Skate Park Perspectives

Directions: Read both news blurbs below. Each describes the same new city skate park, but from a different perspective. Pay attention to **word choice**, **tone**, and **which details are emphasized or ignored**. Answer the questions to uncover bias and compare viewpoints.

Passage A: Parent's Perspective

The city's decision to build a skate park in the downtown area has caused mixed reactions among parents. Many are worried about safety, pointing to the lack of helmets they see teens wearing. Some fear that loud gatherings at the park could disrupt nearby shops and make the area less family-friendly. While supporters claim the park gives kids a place to go, critics argue that money would have been better spent on educational programs or safer community spaces.

Passage B: Teen's Perspective

At last, the city has built something exciting for young people: a skate park right in the heart of downtown. Teens now have a safe and designated place to practice tricks, hang out with friends, and stay active. The park is brightly lit and well-designed, with ramps that meet professional standards. Far from being a problem, the park brings energy and life to the city center, and many believe it will keep teens out of trouble by giving them a positive outlet.

1. What concerns does the parent's blurb emphasize? List at least two.
2. What benefits does the teen's blurb emphasize? List at least two.
3. How does each passage's **word choice** (for example: "family-friendly" vs. "exciting") reveal bias?
4. Which passage seems more positive overall? Which seems more negative? Explain your reasoning.
5. If you were writing a balanced article, what details from each perspective could you combine to create a fairer picture of the skate park?