

Identifying Biases and Assumptions Checklist

Step 1: Analyze the perspective.

- ☐ I have identified the perspective being presented.
- ☐ I have identified who is presenting the information or argument.
- ☐ I have considered whether other perspectives are acknowledged or ignored.
- ☐ I have considered whether someone from a different background might see this differently.
- ☐ I have considered the cultural and historical perspective in which the perspective is rooted.

Step 2: Reflect on your own biases and assumptions.

- ☐ I have identified whether I hold any strong biases on this issue.
- ☐ I have reflected on how my own experiences and identity may inform how I feel or think about this issue.
- ☐ I have sought additional perspectives and information to challenge or support my point of view.

Step 3: Identify assumptions.

- ☐ I have identified any ideas that are assumed to be true without justification.
- ☐ I have identified unstated beliefs about people, society, knowledge, or the world.
- ☐ I have identified any oversimplified logic.

Step 4: Detect possible biases.

- ☐ I have considered what the presenter's motives or interests might be.
- ☐ I have looked for emotive, selective, or persuasive language.
- ☐ I have identified any information that has been deliberately omitted or downplayed.

Step 5: Evaluate any sources.

- ☐ I have cross-checked the information provided.
- ☐ I have checked whether supporting sources are provided.
- ☐ I have used an appropriate source evaluation strategy to ensure any sources are credible and reliable.

Step 6: Reflect on what you've learned.

- ☐ I have thought about how explicitly identifying biases can deepen my understanding of myself and of issues.
- ☐ I have considered how I can use this process in further discussions.