

Name: _____ Nickname _____ Number _____
Class M4/____ Date: _____ September 2026

Fact and Opinion Identification

Read the passage below and complete the activities that follow.

The Amazing Kiwi Bird The kiwi is New Zealand's national bird and is truly one of the most fascinating creatures on Earth. These flightless birds are found only in New Zealand, making them endemic to our country. A kiwi can live for up to 50 years in the wild, which is quite impressive for a bird of its size. Kiwi are nocturnal, meaning they are active at night and sleep during the day. Their feathers look more like hair than typical bird feathers, giving them a unique appearance. In my opinion, the kiwi is the most interesting bird in the world. They use their long beaks to probe the ground for insects, worms, and berries. The kiwi population has declined significantly due to habitat loss and introduced predators like stoats and cats. Conservation efforts are essential if we want to save these incredible birds. Everyone should support kiwi conservation programmes because these birds deserve our protection.

Part A: Identify each statement as either **FACT** or **OPINION**

Remember: Facts can be proven true. **Opinions** are personal beliefs or judgements.

1. The kiwi is New Zealand's national bird. _____
2. The kiwi is truly one of the most fascinating creatures on Earth. _____
3. Kiwi are nocturnal animals. _____
4. The kiwi is the most interesting bird in the world. _____
5. Kiwi use their long beaks to probe the ground for food. _____
6. Everyone should support kiwi conservation programmes. _____

Part B: Find and write down

7. One factual statement from the passage about where kiwi are found:

8. One opinion statement from the passage (not already listed in Part A):

Fact and Opinion Sorting

Instructions: Read each statement carefully.

Decide whether it is a fact (something that can be proven true or false)

or an opinion (a belief, feeling, or judgement).

Circle your answer and briefly explain your reasoning.

1. New Zealand has a population of over five million people.

Circle one: **FACT / OPINION** Explanation: _____

2. The Lord of the Rings trilogy is the best film series ever made.

Circle one: **FACT / OPINION** Explanation: _____

3. Climate change is causing global temperatures to rise.

Circle one: **FACT / OPINION** Explanation: _____

4. Everyone should learn to play a musical instrument at school.

Circle one: **FACT / OPINION** Explanation: _____

5. The Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840.

Circle one: **FACT / OPINION** Explanation: _____

6. Reading fiction is more enjoyable than reading non-fiction.

Circle one: **FACT / OPINION** Explanation: _____

7. The kiwi is a flightless bird native to New Zealand.

Circle one: **FACT / OPINION** Explanation: _____

Cause and Effect Identification

Instructions: Read each passage carefully. Identify the cause and effect relationships and answer the questions below each passage.

Passage 1: The town of Greymouth experienced severe flooding last weekend. Heavy rainfall continued for three days straight, causing the Grey River to overflow its banks. As a result, many homes and businesses near the river were evacuated. Roads became impassable, and emergency services struggled to reach affected areas. The local council has now announced plans to improve the drainage system.

1. What caused the Grey River to overflow?

2. What were TWO effects of the flooding?

a) -----

b) -----

Passage 2: Kōtare High School introduced a new breakfast programme at the beginning of term. Students who arrived early could enjoy free toast, cereal, and fruit before class. Teachers noticed that students were more focused during first period and participation in morning classes improved significantly. Attendance rates also increased, particularly among Year 9 and 10 students.

3. What was the cause of improved focus in first period classes?

4. Identify ONE effect of the breakfast programme mentioned in the passage.

Passage 3: The kauri tree population in Northland has been declining rapidly due to kauri dieback disease. This disease is spread through contaminated soil on footwear and equipment. Consequently, the Department of Conservation installed cleaning stations at all major walking tracks. Visitors are now required to clean their boots before and after walks. Scientists believe these measures will slow the spread of the disease and protect remaining kauri forests.

5. What is causing the decline in kauri tree population?

6. What action was taken as a result of the disease spreading?

7. What effect do scientists hope the cleaning stations will have?

Challenge Question: Author's Purpose and Audience

Instructions: Read each text carefully. Identify the author's purpose (to persuade, inform, or entertain) and the intended audience. Explain your reasoning using evidence from the text.

Text A: "Did you know that New Zealand is home to more than 60 species of native birds? The kiwi, our national icon, is flightless and nocturnal. These unique birds use their long beaks to probe the ground for insects and worms. Sadly, many native bird species are threatened due to habitat loss and introduced predators."

1. Author's Purpose: _____
Evidence: _____

2. Intended Audience: _____
How do you know? _____

Text B: "Hey kids! Join the coolest after-school sports club in town! Whether you're into netball, rugby, or athletics, we've got something for everyone. Meet new friends, stay active, and have a blast! Sign up today and get a FREE club T-shirt! Limited spots available—don't miss out!"

1. Author's Purpose: _____
Evidence: _____

2. Intended Audience: _____
How do you know? _____

Text C: "The old lighthouse keeper shuffled across the creaky floorboards, his lantern casting dancing shadows on the walls. Outside, the storm raged, waves crashing against the rocks like angry fists. He peered through the rain-streaked window, searching desperately for the ship he knew was out there, lost in the darkness."

1. Author's Purpose: _____
Evidence: _____

2. Intended Audience: _____
How do you know? _____

Text D: "It's time to take action on climate change. Rising sea levels threaten our coastal communities, and extreme weather events are becoming more frequent. We must reduce our carbon emissions now. Contact your local MP today and demand stronger environmental policies. Our future depends on it."

1. Author's Purpose: _____
Evidence: _____

2. Intended Audience: _____
How do you know? _____