Opinions of Value, Policy, & Fact

Opinion is the starting point of discussion or debate. Remember that an opinion forms the roof of your debate house which in turn is supported by the pillars and walls of reasons and a foundation of evidence. Just as a roof can have different shapes, opinions can have different types. Opinions usually fall into three main types: ***Value***, ***Policy***, and ***Fact***.

Value (X is better than Y)

Opinions of Value state that one thing is better than another.
For example: *I think that dogs are better pets than cats.*

Policy (X should do Y)

Opinions of Policy say that the government or some other type of authority such as your company management or school administration should do something.
For example: *I feel that the government should lower taxes.*

Fact (X is/was/will be true)

Opinions of Fact state that something is true, was true, or will become true.
For example: *The Earth is getting warmer.*

Read the sentences on the right. Decide whether they are Opinions of Value, Opinions of Policy, or Opinions of Fact and write the appropriate number in the space given. The first one is done for you.

Opinions of Value

Opinions of Policy

Opinions of Fact

1 **a** Cats make better pets than dogs.

____ **b** Math is more important than English.

____ **c** U.F.O.'s have already visited Earth.

____ **d** The government should raise taxes.

____ **e** Soccer is more exciting than baseball.

____ **f** Eating fast food will make you fat.

____ **g** City life is better than country life.

____ **h** Students should not have to wear uniforms.

____ **i** This company should hire more women.

____ **j** The deserts of the world are getting larger.

LIVEWORKSHEETS