



Between Facts & Interpretation 



Challenging Perspective: Teaching Empathy Not Sympathy

Lisa Bentley



Concepts Introduced:

1. The complex relationship between **MULTIPLE CAUSE** and **EFFECT SITUATIONS**.
2. **SMALL CHANGES** can/ often do lead to different **RESULTS**.
(Hence: Despite the belief of many, history does not necessary “repeat” itself.)
3. To develop **CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS** you must practice.
4. History is **ALIVE, DEBATABLE**, & very much **connected to the present**.

GREAT RESOURCE:

Teaching At Its Best:
A Research-Based Resource for
College Instructors
Linda B. Nilson, 2016

Simulation:

A Variation of Debate & Role Playing



“Do whatever you do intensely.”

Robert Henri

In-Class Prep: Starting the conversation with “what must have been.”



1. Conversation introduces topic from a historical point-blank stance, laws, dates, no opinions/perspectives that will take center stage for the **SIMULATION**.

2. Group students are assigned a person and asked research that person’s perspective on the issue. They should form a clear argument that responds to the prompt given in class. Everyone has the same prompt, but with different individuals (hence, differing perspectives).

ASSIGNMENT: Analyze the **PERSPECTIVE**.

Out-of-Class Research & Online Activities

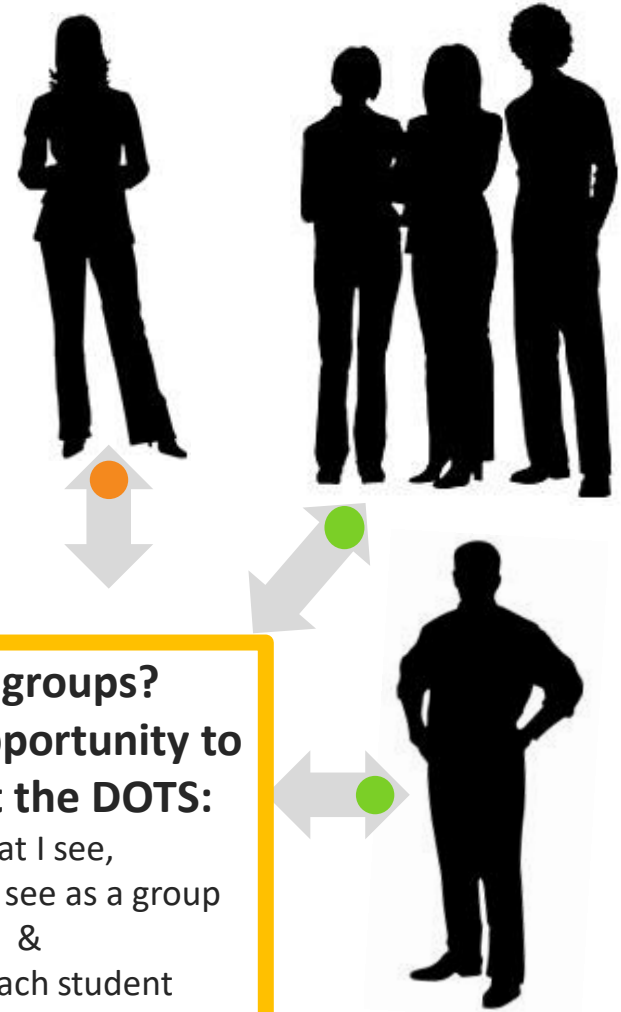


RESEARCH: STUDENTS SHOULD MEET TO
DISCUSS THEIR RESEARCH,
THEN, INTRODUCE
THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE PERSON
THEY WERE ASSIGNED,
BEING SURE TO ADDRESS THE **CENTRAL QUESTION** DRIVING
THE SIMULATION.

THIS STEP IS USUALLY DONE ON INDIVIDUAL D2L DISCUSSION BOARDS.
KEY TO ENSURING STUDENTS COME TO CLASS PREPARED FOR THE CASE STUDY.

Key to Success: Accountability Ahead of Class!

WHY Collaboration



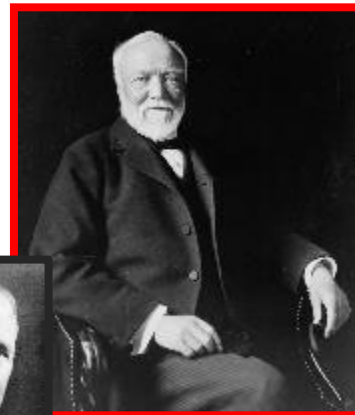
**Why groups?
Better opportunity to
connect the DOTS:**

What I see,
What they see as a group
&
What each student
individually interprets.



In-Class Simulation:

Provide the story. Force the reaction.



Perspectives in History

With the simulation, students should react the way the person they researched reacted.

Applications Across Disciplines



PUBLIC RELATIONS

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

BIOLOGY

STATISTICS

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT
MILITARY SCIENCE**

GOVERNMENT

ENGLISH

“The great end in life is not knowledge but action.”

Thomas Henry Huxley