



Name _____

Date _____

“Fact Frames”

1. People deal with conflicts differently depending on how they frame the facts around the issue. What example does Gardner give of differing fact frames?

2. Define *interpretive* in your own words:

3. Define *frame* in your own words. Explain why frames are useful.

4. What are two different “fact frames” Gardner describes in the scenario about a new water treatment plant?

5. “Facts do not speak for themselves,” writes Gardner. Why is this? Please explain.

6. Information producers sometimes frame facts as if everyone should know what went into the process of getting the data. Why is this frame confusing for information users?

7. What does it mean if experts (i.e. information producers) use a “value judgment” frame for their data? What is the result?

8. What is a “known facts” frame?

9. Describe two ways in which this frame limits information users.

10. “These skeptics are distrustful of scientists and feel that [the scientists’] underlying values and interests in the dispute will necessarily skew their findings.” Using this sentence, describe the skeptical frame and its shortcomings.

Now, think of other lenses through which people look at problems, write one or more possible lens for each problem below.

Problem	Frame
• Should the Israelis or the Palestinians control the city of Jerusalem	Religion, Ethnic Identity
• Should abortion be legal or illegal?	
• Should we drill for oil in the Artic?	
• Should we reintroduce wolves in Idaho?	
• Should gay marriage be legalized?	
• Should we log in national forests?	
• Should we all become vegetarians?	
• Should the U.S. have the right to hold foreign prisoners accused of terrorist activities without trial indefinitely?	