Name _____
Date _____

Generalization

Writing

Generalization = a true statement for most of the group.

- Generalizations help show the whole picture.
- It's an opinion based on a small sample of information.

Example:

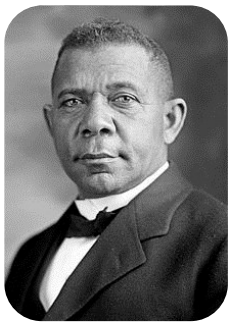
- The batter wears a helmet. *Part of the game must be dangerous.*
- Three students are coughing. *An illness may be spreading.*

A. Make a generalization about the following scenes. (**2 sentences each**)

1. The **North Pole** is the northernmost point on Earth. Unlike Antarctica, the North Pole is covered by shifting polar ice. The nearest village is Alert, Canada – 508 miles away. Its record high temperature is 55° F., and no animals live there permanently.

2. The **Eerie Canal** is a 524-mile waterway connecting the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. It opened in 1825 and cut transportation costs by 95%. The canal allowed faster cargo shipments and enabled thousands of people to migrate inland. Its popularity peaked in 1855 with 33,000 shipments. The canal's demise came with a faster transportation method: railroads.

3. **Booker T. Washington** was an author, educator, and prominent black American leader. He advocated education as a means for poor, black Americans to better their lives. Washington was born a slave and emancipated during the Civil War. He worked in coal mines to pay for his education and became the leader of the Tuskegee Institute. Washington gave lectures, raised money, and advised presidents how to help black Americans.



Booker T. Washington
(1856-1915)

- Careful, sometimes a generalization is not appropriate for a situation. For example, news must be careful not to exaggerate or embellish.
- A **faulty (false) generalization** avoids facts and uses words like *all*, *none*, *everyone*, *never*, and *always*.

B. Give examples why these are considered faulty generalizations? (**1 sentence each**)

1. Tim likes his cat. Cats are nicer than dogs.
2. I tossed the coin four times and got tails every time. This coin always lands on tails.
3. The customer is always right.
4. California was hit by a devastating earthquake.

C. Describe your classroom in general terms? (**4 sentences**)

TpT © The Harstad Collection

ANSWER KEY

Generalization

Writing

Generalization = a true statement for most of the group.

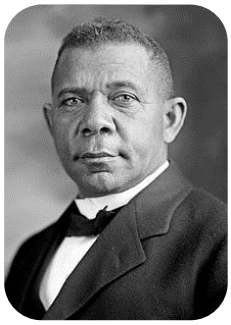
- Generalizations help show the whole picture.
- It's an opinion based on a small sample of information.

Example:

- The batter wears a helmet. *Part of the game must be dangerous.*
- Three students are coughing. *An illness may be spreading.*

A. Make a generalization about the following scenes. (**2 sentences each**)

1. The **North Pole** is the northernmost point on Earth. Unlike Antarctica, the North Pole is covered by shifting polar ice. The nearest village is Alert, Canada – 508 miles away. Its record high temperature is 55° F., and no animals live there permanently. The North Pole is a unique global location. It's a cold, quiet, and desolate spot on the Earth.
2. The **Eerie Canal** is a 524-mile waterway connecting the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. It opened in 1825 and cut transportation costs by 95%. The canal allowed faster cargo shipments and enabled thousands of people to migrate inland. Its popularity peaked in 1855 with 33,000 shipments. The canal's demise came with a faster transportation method: railroads. The Eerie Canal was a popular attraction and helped build America. Its time has now passed due to innovation.
3. **Booker T. Washington** was an author, educator, and prominent black American leader. He advocated education as a means for poor, black Americans to better their lives. Washington was born a slave and emancipated during the Civil War. He worked in coal mines to pay for his education and became the leader of the Tuskegee Institute. Washington gave lectures, raised money, and advised presidents how to help black Americans. Washington came from a poor, uneducated background. He bettered his life through hard work and determination.



Booker T. Washington
(1856-1915)

- Careful, sometimes a generalization is not appropriate for a situation. For example, news must be careful not to exaggerate or embellish.
- A **faulty (false) generalization** avoids facts and uses words like *all*, *none*, *everyone*, *never*, and *always*.

B. Give examples why these are considered faulty generalizations? (**1 sentence each**)

1. Tim likes his cat. Cats are nicer than dogs. Dog owners may be just as loyal.
2. I tossed the coin four times and got tails every time. This coin always lands on tails. The probability will always be 50%, and heads will eventually win.
3. The customer is always right. A customer may make unreasonable demands.
4. California was hit by a devastating earthquake. An earthquake is likely to effect only part of the state.

C. Describe your classroom in general terms? (**4 sentences**) Lights, doors, windows, desks, people…

TpT © The Harstad Collection