

11-14 YEAR OLDS
COMPREHENSION

Here are some notes on the comprehension skills we practised in today's lesson. You will also find an extension activity which you can complete in your own time.

BIAS

Bias can be defined as disproportionate weight in favour of or against an idea or thing. A biased piece of writing may:

- Only present one side of an argument.
- Use overly positive or negative language.
- Omit some facts and figures.
- Use repetition to enhance a point.
- Use emotive language.

POINT, EVIDENCE, EXPLAIN

Point, evidence, explain (PEE) is a way to structure a paragraph of comprehension or English literature writing. It can help you make clear, detailed points which are supported by the text. For example:

Point: This piece of writing uses repetition to present a biased point of view against space tourism.

Evidence: The author uses the word "issue" twice in quick succession to refer to space tourism.

Explain: The use of repetition is likely to sway the reader's feelings towards the subject by instilling this point of view in their minds.

TAKEAWAY CHALLENGE

Read the extract from this week's lesson again. Use the PEE structure to answer the following question: **"Do you consider this text to be balanced or biased? Why?"**

Since it was first launched, the ISS has been visited by 236 different people, many of whom have visited multiple times. However, it is not only astronauts and cosmonauts who have been there. The ISS has also been visited by a number of 'space tourists', regular people who paid a large amount of money to be taken into space.

Space tourism is an issue due to the environmental impact that space travel has on the planet. When the super-rich pay tens of millions of pounds to journey to space for a one-off experience, the whole population suffer the irreversible negative side effects. The issue of space tourism must be addressed soon, before it's too late.

Parents - We would love it if you could share your child's work with us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram using #exploreathome