

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**RH.9-10.6.** Compare the point of view of two or more authors for how they treat the same or similar topics, including which details they include and emphasize in their respective accounts.

**Double Bonus Thinksheet!**

This thinksheet requires you to write about selections from two books about Native Americans. The purpose of your writing is to investigate and discuss how the authors use point of view in their writing. You will first write about each piece separately in two short essays. Then you'll write a longer essay about both of them together.

Genre: History/Social Studies

Focus Skill: Recognize Point of View

*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*

By Dee Brown

**Directions:** An event or persons can be observed from many viewpoints, depending on who is reporting, when the report is written down, and the perspective taken. In *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, Dee Brown uses council records and firsthand descriptions to report events from a Native American perspective. Consider the following excerpts from the passage you've read to state their meaning with this perspective in mind.

<b>Evidence</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<p><b>1.</b> The decade following establishment of the “permanent Indian frontier” was a bad time for the eastern tribes. The great Cherokee nation had survived more than a hundred years of the white man’s wars, diseases, and whiskey, but now it was to be blotted out.</p>	<p>Establishment of the “permanent Indian frontier” led to a decade-long bad time for the Cherokee nation. It had survived 100 years of white wars, diseases, and whiskey, but it was now facing extinction.</p>
<p><b>2.</b> Because the Cherokees numbered several thousands, their removal to the West was planned to be in gradual stages, but the discovery of Appalachian gold within their territory brought on a clamor for their immediate wholesale exodus.</p>	

<b>Evidence</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<p><b>3.</b> Scarcely were the refugees settled behind the security of the “permanent Indian frontier” when soldiers began marching westward through Indian country. The white men of the United States—who talked so much of peace but rarely seemed to practice it—were marching to war with the white men who had conquered the Indians of Mexico.</p>	
<p><b>4.</b> In 1848 gold was discovered in California. Within a few months, fortune-seeking easterners by the thousands were crossing the Indian Territory. Indians who lived or hunted along the Santa Fe and Oregon trails had grown accustomed to seeing an occasional wagon train licensed for traders, trappers, or missionaries. Now suddenly the trails were filled with wagons, and the wagons were filled with white people.</p>	
<p><b>5.</b> Farther west on the Great Plains were the Teton Sioux, horse Indians all, and completely free. There were somewhat contemptuous of their woodland Santee cousins who had capitulated to the settlers. Most numerous and most confident of their ability to defend their territory were the Oglala Tetons. At the beginning of the white man’s Civil War, their outstanding leader was Red Cloud, thirty-eight years old, a shrewd warrior chief. Still too young to be a warrior was Crazy Horse, an intelligent and fearless teenaged Oglala.</p>	



*Son of the Morning Star*

By Evan S. Connell

**Directions:** In *Son of the Morning Star*, Evan S. Connell tries to report events by including both Native American and white perspectives. Consider the following excerpts from the passage you've read to state the meaning of language and events with either a Native American or white perspective, or both, in mind.

<b>Evidence</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<p><b>8.</b> Sitting Bull. Sitting Bull.</p> <p>In English this name sounds a little absurd, and to whites of the nineteenth century is was still more so; they alluded to him as Slightly Recumbent Gentleman Cow.</p>	
<p><b>9.</b> Indians, however, regarded buffalo as the wisest and most powerful of creatures, nearest to the omnipresent Spirit.</p> <p>Furthermore if one says in English that somebody is sitting it means he is seated, balanced on the haunches; but the Sioux expression has an additional sense, not equivalent to but approximating the English words <i>situate</i> and <i>locate</i> and <i>reside</i>.</p> <p>Thus from an Indian point of view, the name Sitting Bull signified a wise and powerful being who had taken up residence among them.</p>	

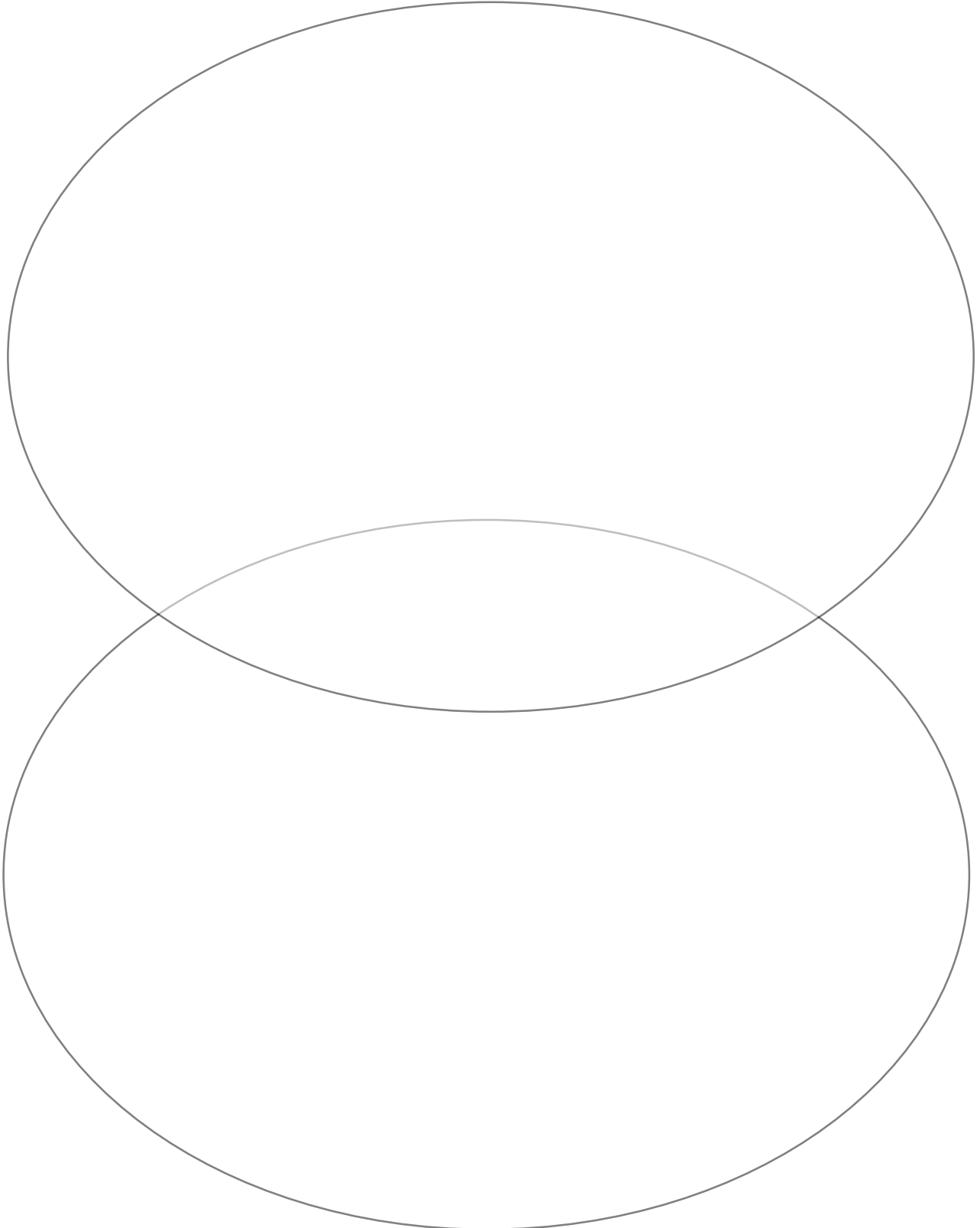
<b>Evidence</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<p><b>10.</b> If he did acquire the name from his father, which seems probable, one must ask how the father got that name.</p> <p>It is said that the elder Sitting Bull occasionally would understand the language of animals and once on a hunting trip he was able to interpret the noise made by a bull. This bull was talking about the four ages of man; infancy, youth, maturity, old age. These ages were identified by metaphor, transmogrified from Dakota into English as Sitting Bull, Jumping Bull, Bull Standing with Cow, Lone Bull. The hunter knew that the buffalo was offering these names to him, so he chose one. He chose the first, which was the most important because it had been spoken first. Years later, after his son touched an enemy, he knew it was time to give the boy this name; and from then on the father called himself by the less important name of Jumping Bull.</p>	
<p><b>11.</b> Thus: Old Man Afraid of His Horse, Young Man Afraid, etc.</p> <p>The patriarch of this Man Afraid family was an Oglala chief born about 1815 whose descendants, like the offspring of other illustrious chieftains, evidently decide to polish up his name. He got that name, they said, not because he feared his horse but because he was such a redoubtable fighter. The mere sight of his horse was enough to make enemies tremble. In other words, a more accurate translation would be They Are Afraid of His Horse.</p>	



RH.9-10.6.

**Planning Page**

**Directions:** You may use this page to prepare your answer to the question on the next page. **Do Not** write your final answer on this page. Write your final answer on the next page. You may use the Venn diagram to help organize your thoughts.







Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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RH.9-10.6.

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