

Scenario: Jessica is a grade 6 student who has been absent from school a number of times due to a variety of reasons that are usually poorly explained. In her earlier years from Kindergarten to grade 2 she showed above average ability but her learning in grade 6 is difficult to access as she shows little willingness to complete work. On some days she is tired and explains that she looks after her younger siblings when her mum is 'away'.

1. History

- How would knowing more context inform our understanding of the events?

2. Philosophy

- What relevant conclusions can be drawn?

3. Sociology

- In what ways might gender, socioeconomic status, and ethnicity limit or expand educational opportunities?

Scenario: Ryan has been a difficult student since coming to school in Kindergarten and now in grade 5 his aggressive behaviour to other students and teachers has resulted in several suspensions. When Ryan returns to school he seems disinterested in school and has a short attention span. Although assessment indicates an average intelligence, his work is generally incomplete or poorly done.

1. History

- Can we corroborate the account?

2. Philosophy

- Which assumptions might be questionable?

3. Sociology

- How do norms, roles, and identities affect teaching and learning?

Scenario: It is half-way through the year and you are far behind in covering class material. You decide to try to move through lessons more quickly, but one student keeps raising their hand and asking questions that you really don't want to take the time to answer as they don't seem central to the discussion. When you tell them that the question isn't relevant to the topic or that it's an issue that you'd rather discuss outside of class, they seem to get irritated and then spends a few minutes making comments to other students. Their whole demeanor toward you has become irritable and sarcastic, and you don't know what to do.

1. History

- Are the claims supported by reasoned argument and evidence?

2. Philosophy

- Are the arguments and the counter-arguments logical?

3. Sociology

- How do social structures, such as schools, enhance or inhibit learning?

Scenario: A parent comes to the office to complain that their son is being unfairly bullied online. They provide a list of student names involved and “wants the school to do something about it”.

1. History

- Is the source trustworthy and is the evidence reliable?

2. Philosophy

- What underlying beliefs should be exposed?

3. Sociology

- What is the role of human, social, and financial capital in education?