

SPOTLIGHT ON STRATEGIES

A variety of simple instructional strategies that incorporate the use of digital media in meaningful, effective, and practical ways.

MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES



BACKGROUND

Understanding a situation from multiple perspectives is an important skill for students to master. The theory of Multiple Intelligences (proposed by Howard Gardner in 1983) has been leveraged in classrooms across the world as a way to differentiate instruction and appeal to students' strengths and interests. This week's strategy uses images as a way to engage students in multiple perspectives of a topic in a way that plays to their unique learning styles.

EXAMPLE

- * Show students the large-size image of [Federal Troops At Rest](#) ([CDN Subscribers](#)).
- * Have students look at the image through multiple perspectives and give them an activity to complete based on the perspective. For example:
 - Look at the man in the upper right hand corner. He is reading a newspaper. Take on the perspective of a news reporter from either side of the Civil War and write an article that might be found in that newspaper. (Verbal/Linguistic)
 - Look at the men in the middle of the image. They are playing a game. What types of games could you create and play in large open fields with limited supplies that you can carry and take along with you? (Kinesthetic)
 - Look at the man in the lower right hand corner. He is reading a letter from home. Take on the perspective of his wife, his child, or a sibling and write the letter; or take on his perspective and write a response. (Intrapersonal)
 - Look at the man in the middle of the image towards the top. He is sitting on a drum. Take on his perspective on the war and write a song about what life is like as a Federal soldier. (Musical)
- * Have students work individually or in small groups to complete the activities above.
- * Share their work with the class.

CHALLENGE

- * Select an image or video segment that matches your current curriculum.
- * Have students analyze the image or watch the segment.
- * Give students multiple perspectives to think through and and multiple activities that address a variety of learning styles.
- * Have students share their work with the class.

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