

LESSON 4 HANDOUT 4.7 HOW WE REMEMBER

MEMORY: HOW DO WE REMEMBER THE PAST?

Consider how you recall the events of your own life. How much of your early years can you recall? Do things like pictures, video clips, news clippings, school yearbooks, and other pieces of your past make it easier? Why? These are the questions we explore in this activity.

1. If you could choose only one item to enhance recall of your past, which would it be? Explain your choice.
 - (a) Family Photo
 - (b) Video
 - (c) Diary
 - (d) School Yearbook
 - (e) School Class Picture
 - (f) Certificate
 - (g) Toy
2. Now consider your family history.
 - (a) How much do you know? How much can you prove to be true?
 - (b) What sources of evidence could you present in support of telling your family story?
3. Now think about the history of Canada.
 - (a) How do we remember the past as a nation?
 - (b) Consider five examples of how this is done. Consider where the telling of this story is done, for example schools, museums, parks, etc.
4. Specific places in which we remember, refer to, or recall past events are called sites of memory.
 - (a) Do you think your examples from the previous question make good sites of memory?
 - (b) Explain how your choices make good sites of memory?
5. Recent controversy over statues of famous Canadians suggests that Canadians are rethinking which sites of memory should be allowed in public areas.
 - (a) Read **Source 4.11 Point-Counterpoint**: Should statues of Sir John A. MacDonald be removed?
 - * Which view do you support? Why?
 - (b) Create a list of five famous Canadians (not living), that you feel deserve some type of formal recognition in the form of a site of memory (statue, school name, street name, museum or other public building).