

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#3

### Understanding Perspective

Read the following fictional letter to the editor and draw observations about the scope of the author's perspective.

March 7, 2010

This letter is a response to an issue that I am seeing more and more in our society—the disrespectful attitude of our nation's youth to elders like myself. The other day when I stepped onto the crowded bus, not one of the students offered me a seat. When I entered a building the other day the young person in front of me did not hold the door for me, and it slammed in my face. When I drove to the supermarket, I was honked at, followed too closely by several vehicles and several young people made obscene gestures towards me for driving too slow, even though I was going the speed limit. In the 1950's when I was a teenager we were taught to respect our elders, and I am worried that this is not being done anymore. I fought for this country in the Korean War and worked for forty years as a teacher to make this world a better place. Without proper respect for the retirees that built the comfortable world these young hooligans now enjoy, I fear that our society will come apart at the seams.

Sincerely,  
Walter Moore

<b>Factors</b>	<b>Conclusions</b>
<b>Range of considerations</b> Does the author focus on one aspect or incident and ignore other relevant aspects or events?	<i>The author describes the behaviour of three groups of youth. Are these representative of youth attitudes more generally?</i>
<b>Author's social or personal experience</b> Does the author's background and upbringing limit his/her ability to provide a broad view on the topic?	<i>As a teacher, the author would have had considerable exposure to young people.</i>  <i>Is the author's view of what is disrespectful may be a product of his upbringing in the 1950's. Perhaps, what counts as respectful or polite behaviour has changed in the last sixty years.</i>
<b>Sensitivity to other views</b> Does the author make a sincere effort to represent the views or insights of other groups and individuals?	<i>The author doesn't try to explain how the youth might have looked on the three situations. Perhaps, the youth didn't see the author coming through the door or weren't sitting near the author on the bus.</i>  <i>Do other seniors feel the same way about youth behaviour?</i>