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EDUC 992
Derricks to Desks

Objective: To critically evaluate and comment on graphs about the petroleum industry that are found in the newspaper using prior knowledge about scatter plots, bar graphs and line graphs.

Curriculum Areas: Mathematics – Algebra 1, Debate

Materials: Copies of current and previous statistics printed in the local newspaper in the form of graphs.

Anticipatory Set: Review of bar graphs, pie charts, line graphs and scatter plots. Discussion about what type of graph is better suited to display what type of information.

Procedure: Have students break into groups of 3 or 4 and show that they are ready to begin. When they are ready, pass out the packets of copied graphs. Students are warned of the time it should take for each problem, as well as the number of mistakes each graph contains. Students need to list as a group on the chart paper the mistakes that they find as well as one thing done correctly on the statistical displays. Students must also brainstorm the effects that this mistake might have on a reader.

Done Incorrectly	Consequences of this	Something done correctly

Assessment: One student from each group must share their chart paper standing at their seat. Students are graded on completeness, effort, neatness, preparedness and poise.

Closure: Class discussion on the effects, both positive and negative, that a single article or chart can have on an entire city's opinion of an industry such as the petroleum industry. Explain what these graphs should look like and why.