

Assessing with Primary Sources

Grade Level: 6

Standard(s) or Objectives: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6 - Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).

Contemporary Resource:



Florida Gov. Rick Scott visits a school in Miami on August 22, 2016.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2016/09/22/zika-funding-florida-vaccine-governor-rick-scott/90781168/>

Topic Background:

The Zika virus first emerged 50 years ago in monkeys found in Uganda's Zika forest. The first human cases of the mosquito-borne disease were reported in 1952. Since then outbreaks have occurred in the Americas, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific Islands. In February 2016, the World Health Organization designated the Zika virus a public health emergency of international concern, estimating up to 4 million people could be infected by year's end.

Excerpted from:

<http://internationalmedicalcorps.org/zika-response?gclid=CNj4r7-jss8CFYSGaQodl9QKVQ>

Source(s) Used:

This source is about Gov. Rick Scott's visit to Washington to discuss the eradication of the Zika virus.

Answer Key:

Students will likely select and provide a justification for the following sentence: "It's a perfect example of the complete dysfunction in Washington."

Directions: Read the text below and answer following question in the blank provided.

**“The Incompetence of Washington”
by Gov. Rick Scott, September 22, 2016**

I went to Washington last week [...]. I asked Congress to get something done. But, what I found in Washington could not be more maddening. Everyone in both parties told me they enthusiastically support the federal government getting serious about erasing Zika. In all my meetings with both Republicans and Democrats, I couldn't find anyone who opposes the federal government spending money to eradicate Zika. But, what has happened? Nothing. It's a perfect example of the complete dysfunction in Washington. Everyone is for funding to get rid of Zika – so of course nothing happens. This explains the problem with our entire federal government – incompetence. When you ... talk to voters all across the country today, they will tell you that Washington is broken. That's not really true, it is much worse than broken. To call our federal government broken is far too complimentary. No, the truth is that Washington is completely incompetent.

Which of the underlined statements best represents Gov. Rick Scott's main point? Explain why. (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6)
