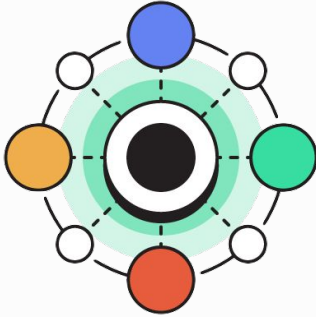


## Formative Assessment: Contextualization and Sourcing



**Thinking historically means interpreting historical events, developments, or processes in light of the surrounding historical context. It also means understanding key information about a historical source, such as its purpose, perspective, and reliability as a piece of evidence.**

**Directions:** Read the following primary source. Then, answer the questions on contextualization that follow. The multiple choice questions for this formative assessment are Weighted Multiple Choice (WMC) Questions. This means that there is only one *incorrect* answer, but the other 3 choices are weighted. The *best* answer is 3 points, the *second-best* answer is 2 points, and the *third-best* answer is 1 point. The *incorrect* answer is 0 points.

# Formative Assessment: Contextualization and Sourcing

Source: Joseph Brucha, "Images of Creation from Stone Giants and Flying Heads: Adventure Stories of the Iroquois.", 1979. [Library of Congress](#).

According to a North American Indian myth, before the earth was fully formed there were two realms—that of the sky and the lower world that contained only water and water creatures. When a woman, known as the "Sky Woman," fell from the cloud world, two swans came to her rescue. The swans were not strong enough to support Sky Woman and a creature known as "Great Turtle" offered to hold her. Other water creatures brought earth from the bottom of the sea to place on the back of Great Turtle, forming the Earth we know today. Some Indians still refer to North America as "Turtle Island."



1. Each of the following statements is a historical fact that is related to the picture. Which historical fact *best* helps to contextualize the purpose of the above picture? In other words, which fact *best* helps us understand what this picture represents?
  - A. One Native American creation myth proposes that before Earth was created, there were only two realms: the sky and the water.
  - B. According to a Native American creation myth, when a woman fell out of the sky and two swans could not hold her up, a great turtle held her, forming the earth.
  - C. Some Indigenous Americans still refer to North America as "Turtle Island."
  - D. Many Native American creation stories use animals and nature to explain how the earth was formed and humanity's relationship to the natural world.

2. Justify your choice in the space below.



1. Each of the following statements is a historical fact that is related to the picture. Which historical fact *best* helps to contextualize the purpose of the above picture? In other words, which fact *best* helps us understand what this picture represents?
  - A. One Native American creation myth proposes that before Earth was created, there were only two realms: the sky and the water. **(1 point)**
  - B. According to a Native American creation myth, when a woman fell out of the sky and two swans could not hold her up, a great turtle held her, forming the earth. **(3 points)**
  - C. Some Indigenous Americans still refer to North America as "Turtle Island." **(0 points)**
  - D. Many Native American creation stories use animals and nature to explain how the earth was formed and humanity's relationship to the natural world. **(2 points)**

2. Justify your choice in the space below.

**Choice B is the historical fact that best contextualizes the image, so is worth 3 points. It demonstrates a very clear purpose of the image: to visualize the creation story. Choice D is also very helpful because it situates this creation myth among others that use nature to explain creation. However, it is not as directly helpful as Choice B, so is worth 2 points. Choice A provides the setting for this image, but does not contextualize it as clearly as Choices B and D, so is worth 1 fact. Finally, Choice C is worth 0 points because, even though it is true, it explains the impact of the story today, rather than contextualizing the image depicting the story.**



### 1. Weighted Multiple Choice

3 points (Choice B)	2 points (Choice D)	1 point (Choice A)	0 points (Choice C)
			<b>Subtotal: _____ / 3</b>

### 2. Short Answer: Justify Your Answer

3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points
Student thoroughly justifies their choice of the <i>best</i> fact—which was worth three points as shown on the teacher key—that would help contextualize the purpose of the source.	Student thoroughly justifies their choice of either the 1 or 2 point option from the WMC question. OR Student’s justification of the 3 point option needs deeper analysis.	Student’s justification of their choice (either the 1 or 2 point option) lacks deep analysis.	Student either makes no attempt to justify their choice OR tries to justify the 0 point option.
			<b>Subtotal: _____ / 3</b>

**Total: \_\_\_\_\_ / 6**

