



How Perception Affects You

By: *Lea Stanton*

Perception is the act of assuming things about someone based off of limited information. Many people do this without knowing or realizing what they're doing. For example, when you're at the grocery store and you start making assumptions about the cashier. Perception can affect the way people think of you, and the way you think of others.

Your perception of others may affect your opinion of the person before you get to know them. I have learned this from a personal experience, as I'm sure you have, too. Although I have experienced many moments like these in my life, my opinion on Pierce the Veil, an American band, has affected me the most.

Perception can change someone's idea of a person in a matter of minutes or even seconds. People are like snakes when they shed skin. A snake's skin is what people see on the outside, and when the snake sheds its skin, that's what the person is really like. People don't take the time to wait for the snake's skin to come off; they leave as soon as they see the snake, carrying all of their assumptions and judgements with them.

This is a great example for the band Pierce the Veil. When I first heard my sister playing Pierce the Veil in her room, I claimed to hate the music. I based my opinion off of how little I knew about the band. I chose to dislike Pierce the Veil based off of what they

looked like and how little I knew about them. This was a big mistake because, just like the snake, there's so much more than their looks. And just like you have the chance to see the snake again, I was able to listen to Pierce the Veil again. Their emotion in their music is something that I love today that I completely missed because of my perception of the band. They've become one of my favorite bands, so it's a shame that I couldn't have discovered my love for the band's music earlier. Of course I can't always assume things about people, but maybe instead of assuming things about the person, I should get to know them better first. After all, perspective plus projection is **perception**.

When you make assumptions about other people, you might make things up in your mind that aren't true and it will affect the way you think of someone. Your perception of others is as limited as a title of a book. You don't know much about the book when you only read the title. To reach a deeper understanding of the book, you have to read the book. To do this, the book needs to be open. This shows people that we have to really understand the person before we can make assumptions about them.

Trudy Vesotsky stated "**Perception = projection** ~ the way you view/filter people is the way you will treat them." This quote shows that the way you judge someone is going to affect the way

you treat them. It fits right in with my situation with Pierce the Veil. My perception was that they looked weird, so I didn't like them. This made me resent listening to their music for a really long time. Perception is stained glass because it's not totally see through. Stained glass is only partially see through. This shows that you can't see the truth through stained glass, so you make predictions and assumptions about what's inside of the building without actually finding out the truth. When the glass breaks, you can get a deeper understanding of what's inside. This has changed me because I've realized that there's so much more to Pierce the Veil than their looks. This lesson changed me because now I always try to get to know someone before making predictions and assumptions about them.

In conclusion, perception is your projection or opinion of a person or group of people based off of very little information and details. This affects your opinion of the person, as well as your emotions towards that person or group of people. Having an opinion on someone you don't know much about is not good because you are making assumptions about someone you don't know. I learned this lesson when I found out that I actually liked Pierce the Veil. After that lesson, I will always try not to make assumptions about people anymore.

Ben Kamm - A Warrior

By: *Brody Kinney*

Warriors in my eyes are people who have fought for someone or something. Ben Kamm is a great example of this. Ben fought in World War II as a Jewish rebel. Because he fought to help his race and win the war, I would consider him a warrior.

Ben was young when the war started. His family had been insulted for being Jewish for all of his childhood. But when the war started, his life became much worse. First of all, he had to be put in a ghetto. After that, he was put in a space for one family with ten other families, so he didn't have much space at all. On top of all that, he had

very little food to eat in the ghetto.

Soon he had enough punishment and decided to join a rebellion in the forest 100 miles away. It took him a few months to get used to the conditions and once he did, he fought well in the war. After a while, the Nazis decided to eliminate everyone in the ghettos including his family. The war raged on for many years to come. When the war ended, Ben had no family to go back to because they didn't want to join the rebellion in the first place.

Ben Kamm shows in many ways he is a warrior. He had fought in WW II, he had to go on

with life without his family, and he had to deal with insults from other men and kids his entire childhood.

Fighting in WW II is enough to call someone a warrior, but he had to deal not having his family. It's hard going on in life without a mother or father to turn to. Ben had been a warrior his entire life.

Throughout his life, Ben Kamm shows, in more ways than one, he is a glorified warrior. Ben fought in WW II, he lost his family, and he was made fun of as a kid. With all of this together, or any of it separate, Ben Kamm is a warrior.

Student Authors

Lea Stanton

Lea is a seventh grade student at Titusville Middle School. She is currently in Mrs. Quirk's Language Arts class and chose to write an extra credit reflective essay about a time where her perception might have affected her. In this essay she discusses how her perception changed about a group called Pierce the Veil.



Students in Mrs. Quirk's Language Arts classes recently read an article about a partisan from World War II who fought against the Nazis. "Teens Against Hitler" is about nineteen year old Ben Kamm, a courageous young man who joined a group of partisan fighters who went up against the Nazis. Students found his story to be both courageous and tragic, as Ben lost his entire family during the Holocaust. Inspired by his story, both Brayden Deshon and Brody Kinney chose to write about this inspiring war hero for their warrior essays.

Brody Kinney



Brayden DeShong



BEN KAMM - WARRIOR

By: *Brayden DeShong*

Ben Kamm was a warrior who fought against the Nazi forces in World War II. He deserves to be addressed as a warrior because throughout his time in World War II, he risked his life many times and was very brave. Some of the things he did included leaving his family to fight, sabotaging the Nazis, and helping Jews. As you can see Ben did some amazing things to earn him the rank of warrior.

One of ways Ben shows that he is a warrior was by leaving his family. Although that might seem like a strange thing to choose, it is actually very warrior worthy. The reason Ben is a warrior because he left his family is because it shows that he was not going to sit back and do nothing while the Nazis oppressed the Jews. This shows how brave Ben was because it shows how he was willing to risk his life for all the oppressed Jews. Another way this shows how brave Ben was is because it showed

how Ben was willing to leave his family so he could help others. This is yet another example of how Ben showed his extraordinary bravery. So by leaving his family Ben showed outstanding bravery and courage.

Another way Ben Kamm shows that he truly a warrior is by sabotaging the Nazis. This feat yet again shows Ben's immense bravery. Ben shows his bravery doing this because for every time he sabotaged any of the Nazis, he risked his life. To add onto that, Ben stated that he took the more dangerous jobs. Doing a job where you don't know if you'll come back alive would require immense levels of bravery. One of the jobs Ben risked his life doing was blowing up rail lines! By risking his life doing dangerous sabotage missions, Ben Kamm once again shows his extraordinary level of bravery.

Yet another action Ben did to earn the rank of a warrior is sheltering Jews

he found wandering the forests. This showed high levels of kindness. Besides being brave, another quality of a warrior is kindness. This specific action shows kindness because Ben could have left the wandering Jews to freeze, but he decided to shelter them instead. Kindness is good quality to have as a warrior because it shows that you care about more than yourself. By Ben simply giving someone shelter, he was saving lives. As you can see, Ben simply giving wandering people shelter shows that he deserves to be called a warrior.

Ben Kamm is a great example of a warrior. He preformed several actions, big and small to earn the ranking of a warrior. Some of these range from sabotage missions, to simply helping people. These examples of things he did showed traits of a warrior such as bravery and kindness. In the end Ben Kamm is worthy of being a warrior.