

# SOS SPOTLIGHT ON STRATEGIES

Simple instructional strategies that incorporate digital media in meaningful, effective, and practical ways.

## MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES



The Multiple Perspectives strategy uses images to engage students in multiple perspectives of a topic in a way that plays to their unique learning styles. The theory of multiple intelligences, proposed by Howard Gardner in 1983, has been leveraged in classrooms across the world as a way to differentiate instruction and appeal to students' strengths and interests. By closely examining the details within an image or video clip, students can immerse themselves in a topic and express understanding according to their unique learning style.



Materials: an image or video about the topic, paper, writing utensil

1. Select one image or video. It is best if the video or image has many components, as students will be responsible for pulling out several details and different perspectives.
2. Have students examine the image through the perspective of an object or person represented.
3. Ask students to write a narrative explaining what they see, hear, say, and/or experience from that perspective.
4. Allow students to share their stories with other people who wrote from the same perspective and/or different perspectives, to compare and contrast details.

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In the information age, students are bombarded with images, videos, and data. It is easy for the details to get lost in the big picture. By focusing on multiple perspectives, students will be able to examine and explain specific details as they relate to the big picture.

In the sample image below, students can take the perspective of the drummer in the upper middle portion of the image and write a song with appropriate content from the time period. They might also take the perspective of the gentlemen holding the note in the lower right corner and write a response in the form of a letter. Or, they might create a news report from the battlefield for the newspaper being reviewed in the upper left corner.



Have students choose one perspective and keep a diary or journal from that person's viewpoint.

Ask students what might happen next after the video or image. Students will then answer from each of the different perspectives.