

three identical strangers worksheet

Three Identical Strangers Worksheet is an educational tool designed to facilitate discussion and reflection on the compelling documentary "Three Identical Strangers." This film tells the incredible true story of triplets who were separated at birth and reunited by chance, sparking a range of questions about identity, nature versus nurture, and ethical considerations in psychological research. This article will delve into the themes presented in the documentary, provide an overview of the worksheet, and discuss its roles in educational settings.

Understanding the Documentary

"Three Identical Strangers" was released in 2018 and directed by Tim Wardle. The film chronicles the lives of identical triplets Bobby Shafran, David Kellman, and Eddy Galland, who were separated at birth and adopted by different families. Their unexpected reunion at the age of 19 not only brought joy but also revealed a larger, darker story involving a secret study conducted by a psychologist.

The Key Themes of the Documentary

The documentary touches on several significant themes that can be explored using a worksheet format:

1. Identity and Self-Discovery

- The triplets experience a deep sense of identity crisis as they grapple with their individual personalities versus their shared genetics.
- Discussion points can include how familial bonds influence one's sense of self.

2. Nature vs. Nurture

- The film raises questions about the extent to which genetics (nature) and environment (nurture) shape who we are.
- Students can analyze examples from the triplets' lives that showcase the impacts of both elements.

3. Ethical Considerations in Research

- The secretive nature of the study that separated the triplets poses ethical questions about consent and the responsibilities of researchers.
- The worksheet can prompt discussions on current ethical standards in psychological research.

4. Family Dynamics

- How do different families influence the triplets' lives? This theme allows

for exploration of the concept of family beyond biological connections.

5. The Impact of Media

- The documentary also delves into how the media portrays personal stories and the potential consequences of public attention on individuals' lives.

Components of the Three Identical Strangers Worksheet

A well-structured worksheet based on "Three Identical Strangers" can enhance students' understanding of the film's themes and foster critical thinking. Below are the key components that should be included:

1. Summary of the Documentary

Provide a brief synopsis of the film. This section may include:

- The background of the triplets
- How they were separated and later reunited
- The discovery of the psychological study

2. Reflection Questions

Incorporate open-ended questions that encourage personal reflection and group discussion. Some examples include:

- How did the reunion of the triplets affect their sense of identity?
- What are the implications of the nature versus nurture debate as portrayed in the film?
- Discuss the ethical implications of the research conducted on the triplets. Were the researchers justified in their actions?

3. Analysis of Key Themes

Create sections that prompt students to analyze specific themes in depth. This can include:

- Identity: In what ways did the triplets' identities manifest differently despite their identical genetics?
- Ethics in Research: What ethical guidelines should govern psychological studies, especially those involving children?
- Family Influence: How did the different environments of the triplets shape

their personalities and life choices?

4. Group Activities

Facilitate collaborative learning through group activities. Suggestions include:

- Role-Playing: Students can take on the roles of the triplets at various points in their lives to discuss their feelings and experiences.
- Debate: Organize a debate on the ethical implications of separating the triplets for research purposes.

5. Creative Assignments

Encourage creativity with assignments such as:

- Personal Reflection Essay: Ask students to write about a time they felt a strong connection to family or identity.
- Art Projects: Students can create visual representations of the themes explored in the documentary, such as a collage about identity or a mind map of ethical considerations.

Using the Worksheet in Educational Settings

The "Three Identical Strangers Worksheet" can be utilized in various educational contexts:

1. High School Psychology Classes

In psychology classes, the worksheet can serve as a basis for discussions on human behavior, identity formation, and ethical practices in research. It can help students apply theoretical concepts to real-life scenarios.

2. Ethics Courses

In courses focused on ethics, the documentary offers a profound case study. The worksheet can guide students in examining the complexities of ethical decision-making in research and its implications for society.

3. Family Studies Programs

For family studies or sociology courses, the worksheet can prompt discussions on family dynamics, the implications of adoption, and the broader societal context of familial relationships.

Conclusion

The "Three Identical Strangers Worksheet" is a valuable tool for educators looking to engage students with the thought-provoking content of the documentary. By facilitating discussions on identity, ethics, and the nature versus nurture debate, the worksheet helps students connect personal experiences with broader societal issues. This educational resource not only enhances comprehension of the film but also encourages critical thinking that extends beyond the classroom. Ultimately, it serves as an entry point into deeper conversations about what it means to be human in a complex world.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of the 'Three Identical Strangers' worksheet?

The main theme revolves around identity, nature vs. nurture, and the ethical implications of the twin study.

How does the worksheet help in understanding the film 'Three Identical Strangers'?

The worksheet provides guided questions and activities that encourage critical thinking about the film's content, themes, and ethical dilemmas.

What are some key discussion points included in the worksheet?

Key discussion points include the impact of separation on the triplets, the role of family and environment in shaping identity, and the ethical concerns of psychological experiments.

What age group is the 'Three Identical Strangers' worksheet suitable for?

The worksheet is typically suitable for high school students and above, particularly those studying psychology, sociology, or ethics.

What type of activities might be included in the worksheet?

Activities may include reflection prompts, group discussions, critical analysis of the film's portrayal of the triplets, and research assignments on related psychological studies.

How can teachers use the 'Three Identical Strangers' worksheet in the classroom?

Teachers can use the worksheet as a discussion starter, a homework assignment, or a basis for a deeper exploration of psychological concepts in class.

What are the ethical issues highlighted in the worksheet?

The worksheet highlights issues such as informed consent, the morality of separating siblings for research purposes, and the psychological impact of such studies on individuals.

Can the worksheet be used for interdisciplinary studies?

Yes, the worksheet can be adapted for interdisciplinary studies, incorporating psychology, ethics, sociology, and even film studies.

What is one takeaway from the 'Three Identical Strangers' worksheet?

One key takeaway is the understanding that while genetics play a significant role in identity, environmental factors and personal experiences are equally crucial.

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