

Teaching Integration and Synthesis of Sources in a One-Shot Library Instruction Session

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Teaching students how to analyze sources and recognize the conversation occurring between them can be challenging in a single, one-shot session.

This activity was originally created for use in an embedded collaboration to help research methods students undertake their literature reviews.

Without the luxury of the embedded context and the ability to assign reading in advance, the activity was adjusted to use political cartoons in lieu of longer articles.

Political cartoons provide an ideal solution to time constraints, as they can be quickly reviewed and analyzed, allowing for hands on learning and practice in a limited timeframe.



Execution:

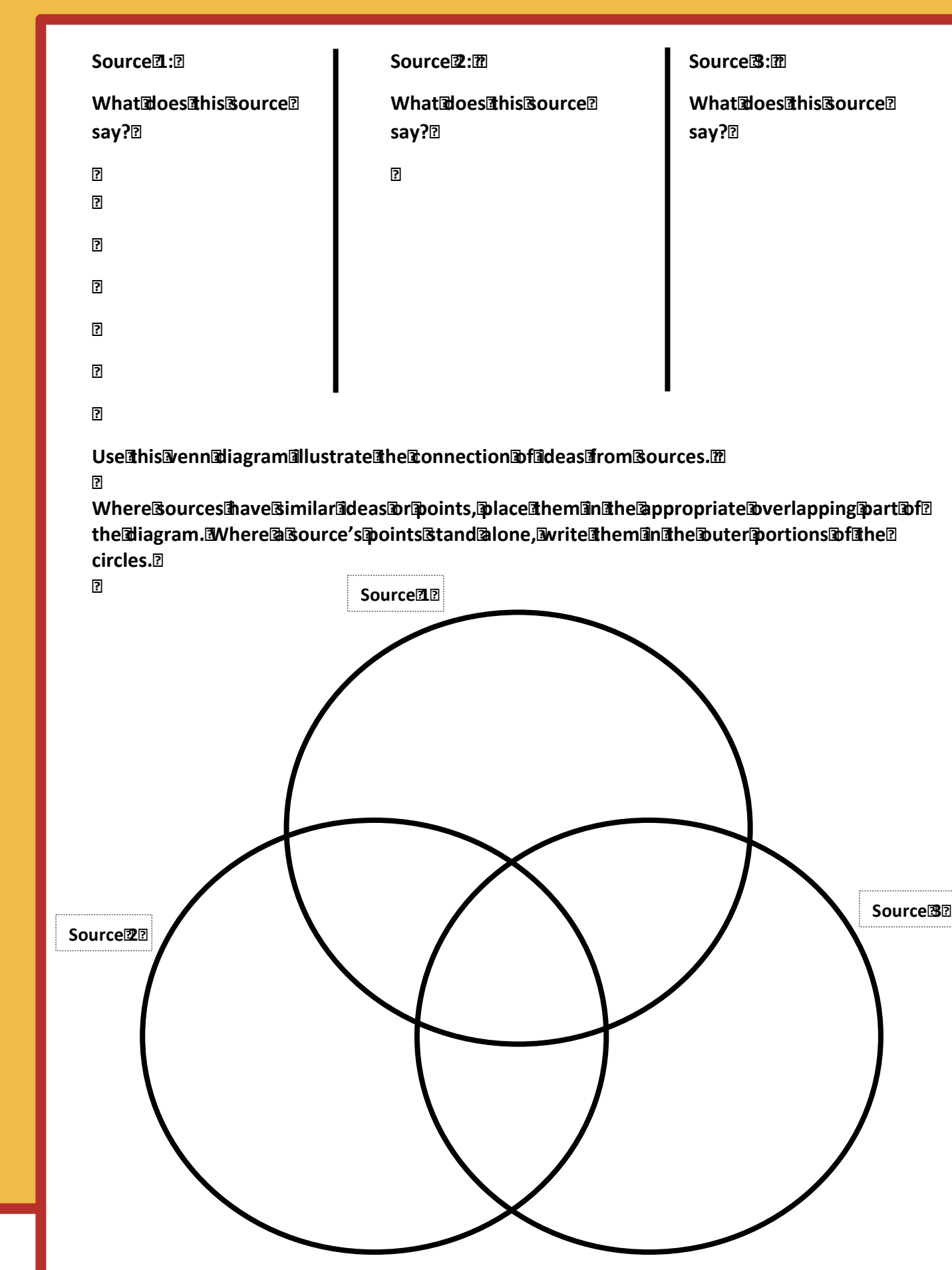
1. Introduce the idea of scholarship as a conversation using Burke's Parlor analogy
2. Present 3 political cartoons for students to critically analyze
3. Have students work individually or in groups to pull out main ideas within the cartoons, and draw connections between them

Time Needed:

20 – 30 minutes

Resources Needed:

- Venn diagram worksheet (available here: <https://bit.ly/2K0aFpF>)
- Three political cartoons on a similar or related topic
- Pens/pencils



The worksheet provides space to make notes on each source individually before drawing connections between sources.