



Equity vs. Equality: Lesson Plan

Topic	
Equality refers to the <i>uniform</i> distribution of a good or service to everyone. Equity, on the other hand, refers to the <i>fair</i> distribution of goods and services based on need or privilege.	
Possible subjects/classes	Time needed
Philosophy Sociology Civics Legal Studies Government/politics	45-60 mins
Video link:	
https://academy4sc.org/topic/equity-vs-equality-unequivocally-important/	
Objective: <i>What will students know/be able to do at the end of class?</i>	
Students will be able to... <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the difference between equity and equality. 2. Identify examples of inequity and inequality in society. 	
Key Concepts & Vocabulary	
Numerical equality, proportional equality, equity	
Materials Needed	
Worksheet, computers/laptops for research	
Before you watch	
Think-Pair-Share Ask students to provide their own definitions of equity and equality. What is the difference between them? Why is this difference so important?	
While you watch	



1. What is equality?
2. What is equity?
3. Who first noted the difference between numerical equality and proportional equality (equity)?
4. Does Affirmative Action aim to address inequity or inequality?

After you watch/discussion questions

1. What are some real-life examples of equality/inequality?
2. What are some real-life examples of equity/inequity?
3. Have you ever been a victim of inequity or inequality? How did it feel? Has it changed your perception of social injustices?

Activity Ideas

1. Identify an area of your community where systemic inequalities or inequities exist. Draft a memo to your local government explaining the issue and suggesting ways to fix it.
2. Research historical examples of social change (ex. the Civil Rights Movement, Women's Suffrage movement, etc.). Determine whether the people involved in these movements were fighting for equality, equity, or both. Sort the events into the corresponding categories. Are there similarities or differences between movements for equality and equity?

Sources/places to learn more

1. *What's the difference between equity and equality?* - Blog. (2018, April 5). <https://publichealthonline.gwu.edu/blog/equity-vs-equality/>
2. *Equality vs Equity—Difference and Comparison* | Diffen. (n.d.). From <https://www.diffen.com/difference/Equality-vs-Equity>
3. Gosepath, S. (2011). Equality. In E. N. Zalta (Ed.), *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2011). Metaphysics Research Lab, Stanford University. <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2011/entries/equality/>
4. Putnam-Walkerly, K., & Russel, E. (2016, Sept 15). What the Heck Does 'Equity' Mean? *Stanford Social Innovation Review*. From https://ssir.org/articles/entry/what_the_heck_does_equity_mean#