

Lesson 2: What Is Miseducation?

A statement can be technically true and still lead you to the wrong understanding.

The Beginner's Investigation · Lesson 2 of 10

The Big Idea

Education means learning. **Miseducation** means being taught something incorrectly, incompletely, misleadingly, or in a way that causes you to misunderstand reality.

The tricky part is that miseducation doesn't have to be a lie.

The Missing Half of the Sentence

Suppose a student learns: "*The Civil War was mainly about states' rights.*"

It sounds simple. But the moment you investigate, a new question appears: **States' rights to do what?**

What Was Taught	What Was Left Out
"States' rights"	The right the seceding states cared about most was the right to keep enslaving people.

A sentence can be partly true and still leave out the one fact that changes everything.

Four Kinds of Miseducation

Type	What It Looks Like
Incorrect	Something false is taught as fact.
Incomplete	Key facts are left out.
Misleading	True facts are arranged to point to the wrong conclusion.
Distorting	The framing makes you misunderstand how the world works.

Try It

Think of a sentence you learned in school that sounds complete. Ask: *What is the missing half of this sentence?*

Don't take our word for it. Investigate.