### Red Herring

raising a side issue that distracts the audience from what is at stake.

---

**Teacher Example:**
A teacher catches a student cheating during a test. The student in response says, “I know I’ve made a mistake. But think of my parents. They’re going to kill me.”

The student uses red herring in his response. He tries to appeal to pity to distract his teacher from the real issue.

---

**My sister from the Navy came into town to visit, and a fire broke out in the kitchen. While I was trying to put out the fire, my sister broke her leg slipping on my homework therefore, I didn’t have time to do my homework because it was ripped to shreds.**

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Drawing/Visual</th>
<th>Teacher Example</th>
<th>Your Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appeal to False Authority</strong></td>
<td>Trying to get readers to agree with us simply by impressing them with a famous name or by appealing to a supposed authority who isn't really much of an expert.</td>
<td><img src="http://www.trulyfallacious.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/appeal-to-authority-doctors-and-camels.png" alt="Appeal to False Authority" /></td>
<td><strong>We should abolish the death penalty because famous Guy Handsome has stated his opposition to it.</strong></td>
<td><strong>We should adopt more puppies because Beyonce has said it's good for the world.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---
