# After the Quake

Compare evidence and viewpoints across news sources

**SS24.CWI.2** "Compare the presentation of world events in various media, including cable news services, international news sources, Internet news sources, network television, print, public broadcasting, and social media..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline one checkable detail in each paragraph, circle two judgments or unsupported claims, and number two places that trace back to the same official statement. Use your marks to compare how the sources present the event.

### One Earthquake, Many Accounts

1. Imagine a powerful earthquake has struck a coastal region in Chile. A public broadcaster opens with an emergency official's dated statement about damaged roads, then tells viewers that rescue totals may change. A network television report shows an interview with a family searching for relatives; the interview conveys urgency but cannot measure damage across the region. An international news service interviews people on both sides of the border and cites the same official statement. An online news site posts a road update with a link to that statement. These reports share a subject, but they offer different kinds of evidence and different perspectives.

2. By evening, a cable news host says the government was "obviously unprepared" while citing delayed aid trucks, but the host does not say how many trucks were expected. A newspaper editorial argues that building rules should be stricter and identifies the inspection records behind its claim. A political cartoon shows officials holding giant microphones while small rescue workers carry supplies. The cartoon uses exaggeration to make a point, not to document the size of the response. The trucks, records, and cartoon's contrast leave readers with three different ways to judge the response.

3. On social media, a widely shared post claims a second quake is certain before midnight and shows a dramatic image. Its caption names no scientist, and a reverse-image search finds the image on a site from years earlier. Another account uses AI to translate an emergency agency's notice into several languages, links to the original, and warns readers to check the agency for updates. A recommendation feed keeps showing users posts similar to ones they watched, so a claim may seem widespread even when it comes from one account. A print report published the next morning includes a correction and a named geologist's assessment.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. If the public broadcaster and online news site give matching road updates, why might that not count as two independent confirmations?

2. Compare the cable host's and newspaper editorial's arguments. Which gives you a clearer way to check its claim, and what would you examine?

3. How does the political cartoon's viewpoint differ from the network interview's presentation of the earthquake?

4. How could both the old image and the recommendation feed mislead readers about the second-quake claim? What source could they check instead?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a hurricane affects two neighboring countries. In four or five sentences, explain how you would compare a public broadcaster, a cable commentator, and a social media post about aid. Name a claim to verify, describe a source-checking step, and explain how an AI-made image or recommendation feed could distort your judgment.

ANSWER KEY

# After the Quake

HIGH SCHOOL · SS24.CWI.2

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one checkable detail in each paragraph, circle two judgments or unsupported claims, and number two places that trace back to the same official statement. Use your marks to compare how the sources present the event. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | If the public broadcaster and online news site give matching road updates, why might that not count as two independent confirmations? | **Both updates trace back to the same emergency official's statement, so they do not provide independent evidence.** |
| 2 | Compare the cable host's and newspaper editorial's arguments. Which gives you a clearer way to check its claim, and what would you examine? | **The editorial identifies inspection records that readers could examine. The host gives no expected number of aid trucks to compare with the reported delays.** |
| 3 | How does the political cartoon's viewpoint differ from the network interview's presentation of the earthquake? | **The cartoon criticizes officials by exaggerating their focus on publicity. The interview shows one family's urgent experience without judging officials or measuring the overall response.** |
| 4 | How could both the old image and the recommendation feed mislead readers about the second-quake claim? What source could they check instead? | **The old image could appear to be current evidence, while repeated posts could make one unsupported claim seem widely confirmed. Readers could check an emergency agency or a named geologist for current information.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would compare the public broadcaster's dated aid figures with the cable commentator's claim that one country received less help. I would check the figures against dated reports from each country's emergency agency and look for the commentator's evidence. I would examine whether the social media post identifies its source or only repeats the commentary. An AI-made image of empty supply trucks could look convincing without showing real conditions. A recommendation feed might repeat that image so often that one unverified claim seems widely confirmed.

Accept other well-supported comparisons that distinguish reported evidence from viewpoint. For the open task, look for a specific claim, a practical source check, and an explanation of how AI imagery or repeated recommendations could mislead.