Words From the Moon

Compare how print and sound shape a historic statement.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.7.7 "Compare and contrast a text to an audio, video, or multimedia version of the text, analyzing each medium's portrayal of the subject (e.g., how the delivery of a speech affects the impact of the words)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that tell what the printed transcript shows, circle details that tell what the audio recording adds, and put a star beside each sentence that compares their impact.

A Moon Landing in Two Media

1 Late on July 20, 1969, U.S. time, astronaut Neil Armstrong spoke from the Moon after Apollo 11 landed. A printed transcript presents his famous line in one short sentence: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." On the page, the sentence looks calm and carefully balanced. Readers can pause at the comma, reread the contrast between small and giant, and notice how the two parts build an idea. The transcript also identifies Armstrong as the speaker and gives the date of the landing.

2 An audio recording of the moment adds details that a transcript cannot show. Armstrong's voice is quiet, slightly crackly, and separated from Mission Control by radio delay. Before he speaks, listeners hear a brief pause and background transmission noise. His steady pace makes the words sound deliberate, even though the setting was risky and unfamiliar. The recording also lets listeners hear the line as a human voice from the lunar surface, rather than as silent words arranged on paper.

3 Both versions portray Armstrong's statement as an important part of the landing. The transcript makes the wording easiest to study. Its neat sentence and comma highlight the contrast between a small step and a giant leap. The recording makes the event feel more immediate. Static, a pause, and Armstrong's controlled voice remind listeners that the words traveled by radio from a distant place. Together, the two versions give the same central message, but each directs attention to different parts of the moment.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the printed transcript help a reader study Armstrong's line? Give two details from the passage.

2. Name two sound details that the audio recording adds. How do these details affect the recording's portrayal of the moment?

3. What does the transcript emphasize, and what does the recording emphasize? Use details from both versions.

4. Why might Armstrong's line feel more immediate in audio than in print? Use two details from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly four sentences about an important announcement you would share in print and in audio. State the shared message, describe two print choices and two audio delivery choices, then compare the effect of the two versions.

ANSWER KEY

Words From the Moon

GRADE 7 · RI.7.7

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that tell what the printed transcript shows, circle details that tell what the audio recording adds, and put a star beside each sentence that compares their impact. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the printed transcript help a reader study Armstrong's line? Give two details from the passage.	**A reader can pause at the comma and reread the contrast between "small" and "giant." The neat sentence makes the wording easy to study.**
2	Name two sound details that the audio recording adds. How do these details affect the recording's portrayal of the moment?	**The recording includes a crackly voice, a pause, and background transmission noise. These details make the moment sound like a real radio message from the Moon.**
3	What does the transcript emphasize, and what does the recording emphasize? Use details from both versions.	**The transcript emphasizes the exact wording and the contrast in the sentence. The recording emphasizes the immediate human moment through Armstrong's voice, static, pause, and radio transmission.**
4	Why might Armstrong's line feel more immediate in audio than in print? Use two details from the passage.	**Listeners hear static and a pause before the line. They also hear Armstrong's controlled human voice traveling by radio from the lunar surface.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My announcement says that the town library will open on Saturdays. In print, I would use a clear heading and bold the opening time so readers can find the main information quickly. In audio, I would pause before the time and speak it slowly in a warm voice. Both versions share the same fact, but the printed version is easy to scan while the recording sounds welcoming.

Accept equivalent comparisons supported by details from the passage. For the open response, accept varied announcements if the student includes one shared message, two print choices, two audio choices, and a comparison of effects.