

Two Views of Eagle

Compare a mission transcript with a later history account.

ELA.4.R.3.3 “Compare and contrast accounts of the same event using primary and/or secondary sources.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one shared idea in paragraphs 2 and 3. Circle one detail that appears only in paragraph 2 and one detail that appears only in paragraph 3 to compare what each account includes.

Landing on the Moon

- ① On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11 astronauts landed the Lunar Module Eagle on the Moon. Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin spent about two and a half hours outside while Michael Collins stayed in the command module above them. People around the world followed the mission by television and radio. Two written accounts describe the landing in different ways.
- ② A NASA transcript records Armstrong telling Mission Control, “Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed.” After he stepped onto the surface, Aldrin called the scene “magnificent desolation.” The transcript captures short messages spoken during the mission. It does not explain much about how the landing changed life for people around the world in later years.
- ③ A history book published decades later explains that the landing was part of the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union. It says an estimated 600 million people watched Armstrong’s moonwalk on television. The book describes the mission as a major moment in exploration and world history. Unlike the transcript, it gives background and explains why many people remembered the event.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

- 1 Which paragraph contains an account made during the mission, and which contains an account written decades later? Give one clue for each.

- 2 What event do both accounts describe? Give one detail from each account that shows this.

- 3 What important background does paragraph 3 include that paragraph 2 leaves out?

- 4 How does the way each account was made affect what it tells the reader?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose an event you have seen, such as a school concert or game. Write a one-sentence firsthand account and a one-sentence later account, then write two sentences that tell one similarity and one difference between the accounts.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one shared idea in paragraphs 2 and 3. Circle one detail that appears only in paragraph 2 and one detail that appears only in paragraph 3 to compare what each account includes. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which paragraph contains an account made during the mission, and which contains an account written decades later? Give one clue for each.	Paragraph 2 is the account made during the mission because it records short messages to Mission Control. Paragraph 3 is the later account because it is a history book published decades later.
2	What event do both accounts describe? Give one detail from each account that shows this.	Both describe the Apollo 11 Moon landing. Paragraph 2 says that the Eagle landed, and paragraph 3 mentions Armstrong's moonwalk.
3	What important background does paragraph 3 include that paragraph 2 leaves out?	Paragraph 3 explains the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union, gives the estimated television audience, and tells why the event mattered in history.
4	How does the way each account was made affect what it tells the reader?	The transcript gives short words spoken during the mission, while the later history book gives background and explains the landing's importance.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Firsthand account: I stood near the gym door as our school garden team opened the new greenhouse. Later account: A school newsletter explained that families raised money for the greenhouse so classes could grow vegetables all year. Both accounts describe the greenhouse opening. The firsthand account tells where I stood, but the later account explains how the greenhouse was paid for.

Accept equivalent evidence-based comparisons, including the landing, Armstrong on the Moon, or the mission's importance as shared ideas. For Part 3, accept any clear event with two distinct accounts, one similarity, and one difference tied to the information each account gives.