Context Clue Detectives

Find clues about a text's time, writer, and situation.

3.T.C.2.c "With adult support, identify the context in which a text is written (e.g., time period, individual, situational). (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline clues that tell when the text was written. Circle clues about who is writing, and number three clues that show what is happening around the writer.

Moonwalk Journal

(1) July 20, 1969. I am writing this in our living room while my family crowds around the television. The screen shows astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin on the Moon. My little brother keeps asking if they can hear us clap. Dad says this is the first time people have walked on the Moon. I wish Grandma could see it with us.

(2) Mom placed a newspaper on the coffee table, but no one is reading it. We watch Armstrong climb down a ladder from the lunar module, Eagle. Then he steps onto the dusty ground. I copy his words into my notebook: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." Everyone in the room is quiet for a moment.

(3) Tomorrow, I will tell my class what I saw. I want them to know why this night feels different from other nights. We are not just watching a show. We are seeing a new part of history from our own sofa. I will save this page so I can remember the date and the people beside me.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. When was this text written?

2. Who seems to be writing this text?

3. What is happening while the writer writes?

4. What two details show that the writer is at home with family?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence journal note about a real or imagined event. Include one clue about who is writing, one clue about when, and one clue about what is happening.

ANSWER KEY

Context Clue Detectives

GRADE 3 · 3.T.C.2.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline clues that tell when the text was written. Circle clues about who is writing, and number three clues that show what is happening around the writer. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	When was this text written?	**July 20, 1969.**
2	Who seems to be writing this text?	**A child who is with family and plans to tell a class about the event.**
3	What is happening while the writer writes?	**The writer and family are watching Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin on the Moon on television.**
4	What two details show that the writer is at home with family?	**The writer says they are in a living room, and family members such as Dad and a little brother are there.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

October 31, I wrote this after school. I am Maya, and I am wearing my firefighter costume. My friends and I are waiting at the library for the costume parade to begin.

For the journal note, accept any three sentences that clearly include a writer, a time clue, and a situation.