Rosa and the Record

Compare a story with evidence from 1906 San Francisco.

7.T.T.1.d "Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal of a time, place, or character with a historical account of the same period. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three details from the fictional portrayal, circle three documented facts from the historical account, and number two pairs of details that show a similar condition.

Earthquake: Story and History

1. Fictional portrayal, San Francisco, April 18, 1906: Twelve-year-old Rosa woke when her bed slammed against the wall. Outside, bricks tumbled from chimneys, and a crack split the street near her family's bakery. Rosa grabbed her little brother's hand as their mother led them to Portsmouth Square. By noon, smoke darkened the sky. Rosa watched neighbors pass buckets from a hydrant, hoping to save the bakery's blue front door. That evening, the family slept under blankets in the park, listening for more shaking.

2. Historical account: At 5:12 a.m. on April 18, 1906, a powerful earthquake struck near San Francisco after the San Andreas Fault ruptured. Buildings collapsed across the city, and broken water mains made it hard to fight fires. Fires burned for several days and destroyed large sections of San Francisco. More than 200,000 people were left homeless. Historians estimate that about 3,000 people died in the earthquake and fires. Many survivors camped in parks, plazas, and temporary shelters while the city began to rebuild.

3. Historical accounts are built from evidence such as photographs, newspapers, maps, and records kept by relief groups. These sources show that the earthquake shook a region far beyond the city and that fires caused much of San Francisco's damage. They do not record every family's exact actions or feelings. A fictional writer may create a character's family, possessions, and words. Readers must study details in each source to decide which ideas are documented facts and which are imagined.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Choose one invented detail about Rosa. Which historical fact makes that detail seem possible during the disaster?

2. What is one similar condition shown in both the fictional portrayal and the historical account? Use one detail from each source.

3. How is the type of information in the fictional portrayal different from the type of information in the historical account?

4. Does the historical account prove that Rosa's family slept in Portsmouth Square? Explain why or why not.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly four sentences about an invented young person during the 1906 earthquake. In your first two sentences, create the person's experience, then use your next two sentences to compare it with the historical account by naming one supported condition and one detail the account cannot prove.

ANSWER KEY

Rosa and the Record

GRADE 7 · 7.T.T.1.d

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three details from the fictional portrayal, circle three documented facts from the historical account, and number two pairs of details that show a similar condition. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Choose one invented detail about Rosa. Which historical fact makes that detail seem possible during the disaster?	**Answers will vary. For example, Rosa's family sleeping in the park is invented, but the historical account says that many survivors camped in parks and temporary shelters.**
2	What is one similar condition shown in both the fictional portrayal and the historical account? Use one detail from each source.	**Both show people staying outdoors after the disaster. Rosa's family sleeps in a park, and the account says many survivors camped in parks, plazas, and temporary shelters.**
3	How is the type of information in the fictional portrayal different from the type of information in the historical account?	**The fictional portrayal focuses on one invented family's actions, possessions, and feelings. The historical account gives documented, broad facts, such as the fault rupture, damage, homelessness, and estimated deaths.**
4	Does the historical account prove that Rosa's family slept in Portsmouth Square? Explain why or why not.	**No. The account supports the idea that survivors camped in parks, but it does not record every family's exact actions or prove that Rosa's family was in Portsmouth Square.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Mateo carried a suitcase to a crowded park after the ground stopped shaking. He worried that fire would reach his home. His outdoor shelter matches the historical account's report that many survivors camped in parks and temporary shelters. The account can show that fires destroyed large sections of the city, but it cannot prove Mateo's worry or suitcase.

Accept different accurate examples from the passage. Responses should distinguish an invented individual detail from a documented historical condition and explain that broad evidence can support plausibility without proving a character's specific experience.