

Same Facts, New Lens

Compare evidence and interpretations in two science articles.

7.T.T.2.b "Analyze how two or more authors writing about the same topic shape their presentations of key information by emphasizing different evidence or advancing different interpretations of facts. (I)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline evidence Ortiz uses and circle evidence Bell uses. In the margin, write O or B beside one detail that shows each writer's main interpretation.

One Park, Two Views

- ① Two science writers examine the return of gray wolves to Yellowstone National Park. In 1995 and 1996, wildlife managers released 31 wolves captured in Canada into the park. Writer Lena Ortiz focuses on the wolves as predators. She notes that wolves hunt elk, especially animals that are old, sick, or separated from a herd. Ortiz points to the growth of wolf packs as evidence that the park again supports a missing native predator. Her article calls the return a major step in restoring a complete food web.
- ② Writer Marcus Bell uses the same events to ask what changed for people living near the park. He reports that ranchers sometimes worry about wolves attacking livestock, although confirmed wolf-caused losses near Yellowstone are tracked and compensation programs may pay ranchers for verified losses. Bell also cites hunters who noticed that elk numbers declined after the 1990s. Rather than credit wolves alone, he lists hunting outside the park, drought, and changes in habitat as other possible causes. His article presents wolf recovery as a success that also requires careful management.
- ③ Yellowstone's wolf return did not cause one simple result. Wolves can affect elk behavior and numbers, but biologists also study weather, hunting beyond park borders, disease, and habitat when they explain changes in elk herds. Ranchers outside the park may use fencing, range riders, or other methods to reduce conflicts with predators. The National Park Service and partner agencies monitor wolves, elk, and livestock reports. These records allow writers to use accurate facts while asking different questions about the same restoration effort.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What interpretation of wolf reintroduction does Ortiz advance? Name one detail she uses to support it.

2 What interpretation does Bell advance? Name one type of evidence he includes that Ortiz does not emphasize.

3 Bell lists hunting, drought, and habitat changes along with wolves. What does this list suggest about his view of the elk decline?

4 How do Ortiz's and Bell's choices of evidence guide readers toward different ideas about the same wolf restoration effort?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Use these facts about a school garden: it cost \$1,200 to build, classes use it once a week, and it produced 400 pounds of vegetables in its first year. Write two two-sentence mini-articles, one that presents the garden as a strong investment and one that presents it as a cost that needs careful planning. Each mini-article must use at least one fact and show a different interpretation.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline evidence Ortiz uses and circle evidence Bell uses. In the margin, write O or B beside one detail that shows each writer's main interpretation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What interpretation of wolf reintroduction does Ortiz advance? Name one detail she uses to support it.	Ortiz presents wolf reintroduction as restoring the ecosystem. She uses wolves hunting elk or the growth of wolf packs as support.
2	What interpretation does Bell advance? Name one type of evidence he includes that Ortiz does not emphasize.	Bell presents wolf recovery as a success that needs careful management. He includes livestock concerns, compensation for verified losses, or other causes of elk decline.
3	Bell lists hunting, drought, and habitat changes along with wolves. What does this list suggest about his view of the elk decline?	It suggests that wolves may be one cause, but they are not the only cause of elk decline.
4	How do Ortiz's and Bell's choices of evidence guide readers toward different ideas about the same wolf restoration effort?	Ortiz's evidence about predators and pack growth guides readers to see ecological restoration. Bell's evidence about ranchers and several causes of change guides readers to consider management and effects on people.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Author A: The school garden is a strong investment because classes use it every week for hands-on learning. In its first year, it produced 400 pounds of vegetables, giving students a useful result from their work. Author B: The garden's \$1,200 building cost means the school should plan its budget carefully. Although it produced 400 pounds of vegetables in its first year, leaders must decide whether that benefit is worth the expense.

Accept equivalent descriptions of each writer's interpretation when students connect it to accurate passage evidence. For Part 3, accept varied wording if each mini-article uses a supplied fact and clearly advances a different view.