One Nest, Three Lenses

Compare how genre shapes the details a writer includes.

9.P.AC.3.b "Apply knowledge of how mode and genre impact what kinds of ideas and information are included in texts. (I/C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle details that reveal what each paragraph is trying to do, then number one detail in each paragraph that would be less likely to appear in either of the other two genres.

Three Views of a Falcon Nest

1. News Report. On April 18, workers repairing the Riverton Library clock tower paused after spotting two peregrine falcons near a shallow nest box. City wildlife staff confirmed that the birds had laid three eggs. The repair crew moved its lift to the opposite side of the tower and will avoid the nest area until the young birds can fly. Peregrine falcons often nest on tall buildings, which can resemble cliffs. Library director Ana Morales said the building will remain open, but visitors should use the east entrance while equipment is moved.

2. Field Journal. At 7:12 this morning, I stood across Maple Street with my binoculars aimed at the library tower. One adult falcon landed on the stone ledge carrying what looked like a small bird. Its mate called sharply from the nest box, then settled low enough that only its striped back showed. Traffic hissed below, yet the falcons seemed to notice every pigeon that crossed the sky. I felt oddly protective of the quiet pair, even though they chose a place above a busy sidewalk. Tomorrow I plan to return before sunrise and record which adult brings food first.

3. Library Notice. To protect nesting falcons and keep visitors safe, stay behind the blue rope near the clock tower. Do not feed, touch, or try to photograph the birds from the roof or maintenance areas. The east entrance is open during repairs, and a viewing sign on Maple Street explains how to watch from a respectful distance. Report an injured bird to city wildlife staff at 555-0148. The nest will be monitored through the breeding season. By following these directions, visitors can help the library operate safely while the falcon family uses the tower.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the date, the wildlife staff confirmation, and the repair information fit the purpose of a news report?

2. Identify two details from the field journal that show the writer's personal observation or feelings.

3. Why does the library notice include directions about the rope, photographs, entrances, and reporting an injured bird?

4. Identify one fact included in the news report but not in the library notice. Explain why the report includes that fact.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a real or imagined school event. Write a 45-60 word news brief and a 45-60 word personal journal entry about the same event. Include two facts in both pieces, then add details that fit each genre's purpose.

ANSWER KEY

One Nest, Three Lenses

GRADE 9 · 9.P.AC.3.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle details that reveal what each paragraph is trying to do, then number one detail in each paragraph that would be less likely to appear in either of the other two genres. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the date, the wildlife staff confirmation, and the repair information fit the purpose of a news report?	**They give verified, timely information about the nest and explain how the event affects library operations.**
2	Identify two details from the field journal that show the writer's personal observation or feelings.	**Answers may include the precise time, the binoculars, the description of traffic hissing, "I felt oddly protective," or the plan to return before sunrise.**
3	Why does the library notice include directions about the rope, photographs, entrances, and reporting an injured bird?	**Its purpose is to direct visitors' actions so people and the nesting falcons remain safe.**
4	Identify one fact included in the news report but not in the library notice. Explain why the report includes that fact.	**For example, the report says wildlife staff confirmed three eggs. A news report shares developments and verified facts, while the notice focuses on visitor directions and safety.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

News Brief: On Friday, Roosevelt High opened its student garden beside the science wing. About forty volunteers planted tomatoes, beans, and marigolds during the afternoon event. Principal Chen thanked the environmental club for organizing the project. The garden will supply herbs for culinary classes, and volunteers will water the beds each Tuesday. Personal Journal: On Friday, I joined about forty volunteers at the new student garden beside the science wing. My hands smelled like wet soil after I planted marigolds with my friend Lila. When Principal Chen thanked our club, I stopped worrying that my crooked row looked foolish. I cannot wait to water it Tuesday.

Accept answers that accurately connect a paragraph's selected details to its genre, audience, or purpose. In Part 3, both pieces should share at least two facts while using news-style reporting in one and personal reflection or observation in the journal entry.