

Three Views, One Landing

Compare how each person's position shapes an account of Apollo 11.

5R6 "In literary texts, explain how a narrator's or speaker's point of view influences how events are described. (RL) In informational texts, analyze multiple accounts of the same event or topic..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail in each paragraph that shows what the person noticed or cared about most. Circle the words that tell where that person was during the landing.

Accounts of a Moon Landing

- ① On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11 landed on the Moon. In Mission Control in Houston, flight director Gene Kranz later remembered the landing as a tense engineering problem. Computer alarms sounded, and the lunar module had little fuel left. Kranz focused on the controllers' calm choices and careful training. From his station, he described a team working together to bring the astronauts down safely.
- ② Television reporter Walter Cronkite watched the same event from a CBS studio. During the broadcast, he told viewers that the Eagle had landed, then showed strong emotion on camera. His account centered on what people at home could see and feel. Instead of explaining the computer alarms, Cronkite made the landing seem like a shared, astonishing moment for an enormous television audience.
- ③ Apollo 11 command module pilot Michael Collins experienced the landing from lunar orbit. While Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were in Eagle, Collins circled the Moon alone in Columbia. He could not watch their landing from his window, and radio contact stopped briefly when he passed behind the Moon. His account emphasized isolation, waiting, and responsibility for bringing the crew home.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What did Gene Kranz focus on in his account? How did his job influence that focus?

2 How was Walter Cronkite's account different from Kranz's account? Use one detail from each account.

3 What details show that Michael Collins had a different view of the landing than the people on Earth?

4 State one important similarity and one important difference among the three accounts.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Imagine you are a visitor in a science museum watching the Apollo 11 landing on television. Write exactly four sentences about the event. Include one accurate fact from the passage and make clear how your point of view affects the details you notice.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one detail in each paragraph that shows what the person noticed or cared about most. Circle the words that tell where that person was during the landing. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did Gene Kranz focus on in his account? How did his job influence that focus?	Kranz focused on the controllers' calm choices, training, alarms, and fuel. As flight director in Mission Control, he saw the landing as an engineering and safety problem.
2	How was Walter Cronkite's account different from Kranz's account? Use one detail from each account.	Cronkite focused on viewers' feelings and the shared television experience. Kranz focused on the work of Mission Control, including alarms, fuel, and careful decisions.
3	What details show that Michael Collins had a different view of the landing than the people on Earth?	Collins was circling the Moon alone in Columbia. He could not see the landing from his window, and radio contact stopped when he passed behind the Moon.
4	State one important similarity and one important difference among the three accounts.	All three accounts describe the Apollo 11 landing. Kranz emphasizes the control team, Cronkite emphasizes the television audience, and Collins emphasizes being alone in lunar orbit.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

From the museum lobby, I watched the television as the announcer said that Eagle had landed. The adults around me grew quiet because the astronauts were far away on the Moon. I noticed the crowd's faces and the sound from the television more than the work in Mission Control. As a visitor watching with others, I saw the landing as a surprising public event.

Accept equivalent answers that accurately cite the passage and connect each account's focus to the person's location or role. For Your Turn, accept any four-sentence account with a correct passage fact and a clear point of view.