

Moon Mission Sources

Compare how a mission record and a history article tell one event.

ELA.5.R.3.3 "Compare and contrast primary and secondary sources related to the same topic."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB In Source T, underline Armstrong's landing report and circle Duke's acknowledgment. In Source A, underline one fact about the landing location and circle the sentence about the earlier mission goal.

Apollo 11: A Record and an Overview

- ① **Source T - selected mission radio transcript excerpts.** On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong reported from Eagle: "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed." Charles Duke at Mission Control replied in his next transmission: "We copy you on the ground." These selected words come from NASA's *Apollo Lunar Surface Journal: The First Lunar Landing*. The journal identifies each speaker and preserves the mission conversation. This is not the full conversation. Source: nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/static/history/alsj/a11/a11.landing.html.
- ② **Source A - summary of a historical overview.** Eagle landed in the Sea of Tranquility, partly piloted by Armstrong, about four miles beyond the predicted touchdown point. The mission's goal was to land people on the Moon and return them safely to Earth, a goal President Kennedy had announced in 1961. These facts place the landing within the wider mission and its earlier purpose. Adapted from Sarah A. Loff, NASA, *Apollo 11 Mission Overview*, April 17, 2015; nasa.gov/history/apollo-11-mission-overview/.
- ③ **Compare the source roles.** Source T preserves the words of people taking part in the event, so these excerpts are primary material. Source A is used here as a secondary account that combines facts to explain the mission. Publication date alone does not determine the type: a participant's later memory can also be firsthand. The journal includes later commentary, but the selected T excerpts are the actual mission transmissions. Choose a source according to the question you need to answer.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1** A display needs the words actually spoken when Eagle landed. Which source should its writers use, and who spoke the landing report?

- 2** Which source explains the predicted landing point and the earlier mission goal? Give one detail about each.

- 3** How do the sources present the landing differently? Use a detail from each.

- 4** What important fact do both sources support, and how does each support it?

3

YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence caption set for an Apollo 11 display. First compare T and A and explain their source roles. Then use one accurate detail from T and one from A in separate sentences, explaining what each helps visitors understand.

Write and check the captions

Attribute each detail to T or A. Keep the speaker correct and explain the contribution of each source. The transcript records an event; the overview adds researched context.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

In Source T, underline Armstrong's landing report and circle Duke's acknowledgment. In Source A, underline one fact about the landing location and circle the sentence about the earlier mission goal. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	A display needs the words actually spoken when Eagle landed. Which source should its writers use, and who spoke the landing report?	Use T, the mission transcript. It preserves Neil Armstrong's landing report and Duke's acknowledgment.
2	Which source explains the predicted landing point and the earlier mission goal? Give one detail about each.	Source A says the landing was about four miles beyond the predicted point and connects the mission with Kennedy's 1961 goal of landing people and returning them safely.
3	How do the sources present the landing differently? Use a detail from each.	T presents participants' direct messages reporting and acknowledging the landing. A summarizes the location, manual piloting and earlier goal to explain the wider event.
4	What important fact do both sources support, and how does each support it?	Both support that Eagle landed on the Moon. T records Armstrong's report and Duke's acknowledgment; A describes the landing location and how it compared with the plan.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Source T preserves participants' words as primary material, while Source A combines facts in a secondary explanation. T records Neil Armstrong reporting Eagle's landing, letting visitors learn what was said at the moment. A explains the earlier goal of a Moon landing and safe return, helping visitors place the event within the mission's purpose.

Armstrong, not Aldrin, spoke the landing report. Duke spoke the selected acknowledgment from Earth. Accept equivalent evidence-based comparisons with correct attribution and source roles. Source A is the identified NASA overview, not an unnamed museum article. Do not add claims about a live television view of the landing or an immediate moonwalk; those are not supplied in these sources. Three caption sentences should compare the source roles and explain one contribution from each.