Moon Mission Views

Compare clearly credited editorial summaries of three NASA accounts.

4.RI.3.B "Compare and contrast multiple accounts of the same event or topic and describe the differences in focus and the information provided."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail in each account that shows its main focus. Circle one detail in each account that the other accounts do not provide.

Three Accounts of Apollo 11

1. Account 1 : Mission overview. This classroom summary adapts NASA's "Apollo 11 Mission Overview" by Sarah Loff (2015). Apollo 11 launched from Florida on July 16, 1969. Eagle landed on the Moon on July 20, and Armstrong became the first person to step onto its surface. The overview describes a mission with a worldwide audience: an estimated 650 million people watched his televised first step. It also describes the return to Earth.
2. Account 2 : Landing decisions. This classroom summary adapts "First Steps" by Eric M. Jones in NASA's Apollo Lunar Surface Journal (revised 2015). The planned approach took Eagle toward a crater and a field of boulders. Armstrong changed to manual control and flew farther to find a safer place. Aldrin reported the spacecraft's altitude and movement while Armstrong guided it. This account explains how teamwork and decisions helped them land.
3. Account 3 : A lasting experiment. This classroom summary adapts NASA/JPL's "The Apollo Experiment That Keeps on Giving" (2019). The astronauts left a reflector on the Moon. Scientists on Earth send laser pulses toward its prisms and time the reflected light's return. That timing helps them measure the Moon's distance. This account follows scientific work that continued long after the astronauts went home. These are editorial adaptations, not invented first-person astronaut statements.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What shared event connects all three accounts? Use details from any two accounts to support your answer.

2 How is the focus of Account 1 different from the focus of Account 2?

3 How does Account 3 provide different information from Account 1?

4 Which account would best help a reader learn why Eagle landed in a different spot than planned? Explain why.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Compare Accounts1 and3 in a short paragraph. Name their shared topic, distinguish their focus, and support each part of the comparison with an accurate detail.

ANSWER KEY

Moon Mission Views

GRADE 4 · 4.RI.3.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one detail in each account that shows its main focus. Circle one detail in each account that the other accounts do not provide. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What shared event connects all three accounts? Use details from any two accounts to support your answer.	**All discuss Apollo11: Account1 gives the mission sequence, Account2 describes Eagle's landing and Account3 follows an experiment left there.**
2	How is the focus of Account 1 different from the focus of Account 2?	**Account1 gives the broad mission and audience; Account2 explains landing choices and teamwork.**
3	How does Account 3 provide different information from Account 1?	**Account3 explains how the reflector enables later distance measurements; Account1 emphasizes launch, landing, audience and return.**
4	Which account would best help a reader learn why Eagle landed in a different spot than planned? Explain why.	**Account2 explains the boulders, crater and Armstrong's move to a safer landing spot.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Both accounts discuss Apollo11. Account1 presents the overall mission and its large television audience. Account3 concentrates on continuing science: timing laser reflections helps measure the distance to the Moon.

Sources (editorial summaries, not quotations): NASA, Sarah Loff, Apollo 11 Mission Overview,2015: https://www.nasa.gov/missions/apollo/apollo-11/apollo-11-mission-overview/ ; Eric M. Jones, First Steps, revised2015: https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/static/history/alsj/a11/a11.summary.html ; NASA/JPL, The Apollo Experiment That Keeps on Giving,2019: https://www.nasa.gov/missions/apollo/apollo-11/the-apollo-experiment-that-keeps-on-giving/ . Checked October17,2026. Accept accurate comparisons with details; do not attribute the adapted narration directly to Armstrong or Aldrin.