

Apollo Through Three Lenses

Compare how genre and purpose shape an account of one event.

7.6.B “write responses that demonstrate understanding of texts, including comparing sources within and across genres;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each source label. Underline one detail in each source that reveals what the source chooses to emphasize, so you can compare the accounts.

Apollo 11 Through Three Sources

- ① Source A, Mission Report. On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11's lunar module Eagle separated from the command module and descended toward the Moon. Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed in the Sea of Tranquility at 4:17 p.m. EDT. The report lists fuel, communications, and landing times because mission controllers needed an exact record. While Armstrong and Aldrin worked on the surface, Michael Collins remained in Columbia, the command module, orbiting the Moon alone during the landing.
- ② Source B, Newspaper Report. The next morning, readers of The New York Times saw a large headline announcing that men had walked on the Moon. The article described families gathering around televisions as Armstrong stepped onto the dusty surface. It reported his first words, “That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind,” though the live broadcast was hard for some listeners to hear clearly. Unlike the mission report, this account focused on the public’s excitement and the event’s meaning.
- ③ Source C, Memoir Excerpt. Years later, Michael Collins wrote about circling the Moon while his crewmates landed below. He remembered that, when Columbia passed behind the Moon, he could not communicate with Earth or Eagle. His description emphasizes quiet, distance, and responsibility rather than exact measurements. Although Collins did not see the moonwalk, his memories show that the mission included a third astronaut whose work was essential. He offers a personal view of a moment that audiences on Earth watched from far away.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What event connects all three sources?

2 How do Source A and Source B focus on the event differently? Use one detail from each source.

3 How does Source C's memoir genre affect the kind of information it gives?

4 Which source would best help a reader verify the landing time, and which source would best explain the public reaction? Explain your choices.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a school or community event you know. In 3 to 4 sentences, compare how a news report and a personal journal entry would describe the event. Name one detail each source would include and explain why the details would differ.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each source label. Underline one detail in each source that reveals what the source chooses to emphasize, so you can compare the accounts. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What event connects all three sources?	The Apollo 11 lunar landing and moonwalk in 1969.
2	How do Source A and Source B focus on the event differently? Use one detail from each source.	Source A gives technical mission details, such as the 4:17 p.m. landing time. Source B emphasizes the public response, such as families watching on television.
3	How does Source C's memoir genre affect the kind of information it gives?	It gives Collins's personal memories and feelings about isolation and responsibility instead of technical measurements.
4	Which source would best help a reader verify the landing time, and which source would best explain the public reaction? Explain your choices.	Source A would best verify the landing time because it records exact mission information. Source B would best explain the public reaction because it describes families gathering around televisions and public excitement.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A news report about our school garden opening would name the date, the number of volunteers, and the vegetables planted. My journal entry would describe the muddy gloves and my pride when I carried a tomato plant. The sources would differ because the report informs the community, while the journal records one person's experience.

Accept comparisons that identify a source's different focus, purpose, audience, or type of evidence. For the open task, accept any plausible event and details if the student clearly explains how genre shapes the account.