

Time Lens

Use time words to describe events at different scales.

3.15.C “apply the terms year, decade, and century to describe historical times;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the three duration facts, 12 months, 10 years, and 100 years. Then underline each use of the words year, decade, or century.

Looking at History in Different Sizes

- ① Historians use time words to tell how long ago events happened. A year is 12 months. It can name one spot on a calendar, such as 2018. A decade is 10 years. For example, the 2010s began in 2010 and ended in 2019. A century is 100 years, such as the years 1801 through 1900.
- ② In 1906, a strong earthquake struck San Francisco, California. That date names one year. The earthquake happened during the decade called the 1900s, which ran from 1900 to 1909. It also happened in the 20th century. The 20th century began in 1901 and ended in 2000. Each time word gives a different-sized view of the past.
- ③ On July 20, 1969, astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the Moon. This event is often called the first Moon landing. The date 1969 gives the most specific time word, a year. The landing was also in the 1960s decade and in the 20th century. Historians choose the time word that fits the amount of time they want to describe.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What is the most specific time word for 1906?

2 Which decade included the 1906 San Francisco earthquake?

3 Which century included the first Moon landing in 1969?

4 For 1969, which time word gives the smallest span: year, decade, or century?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a historical event not named in the passage. Write two sentences. In the first sentence, state the year of the event. In the second sentence, name its decade and century.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the three duration facts, 12 months, 10 years, and 100 years. Then underline each use of the words year, decade, or century. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the most specific time word for 1906?	year
2	Which decade included the 1906 San Francisco earthquake?	the 1900s
3	Which century included the first Moon landing in 1969?	the 20th century
4	For 1969, which time word gives the smallest span: year, decade, or century?	year

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The first iPhone went on sale in 2007. It was in the 2000s decade and the 21st century.

Accept any accurate historical event not named in the passage. The response should correctly identify one year, its decade, and its century.