Two Views, One Eruption

Compare how experiences shape accounts of a historical event.

5.RI.3 "Integration of Concepts Use prior (experience) and background (content) knowledge as context for new learning. Analyze multiple accounts of the same event or topic…"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show geologist David Johnston's point of view, and circle details that show the resident's point of view. In the margin, write S beside one similarity and D beside one difference between the accounts.

Mount St. Helens: Two Accounts

1. On May 18, 1980, Mount St. Helens in Washington erupted after weeks of earthquakes and swelling ground. The north side of the volcano collapsed in a huge landslide. Pressure released from inside the mountain, sending a sideways blast, ash, and hot gas across the land. Scientists and nearby residents described the same disaster, but they noticed different parts of it.

2. Geologist David Johnston watched from a ridge about six miles away. He had studied the growing bulge and warned that the volcano could erupt. When the north side slid away, he radioed, "Vancouver! Vancouver! This is it!" His account focuses on the volcano's sudden change and the danger he had predicted. Johnston was killed by the blast soon after his call.

3. One nearby resident later remembered that daylight turned dark as ash fell. Her family had left their home after officials ordered evacuations, so they watched the sky from a safer town. Her account focuses on fear, darkness, and worry about neighbors. Unlike Johnston, she did not explain the landslide. Her experience shows how evacuation orders affected people before the eruption.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the growing bulge on the volcano affect David Johnston's actions before the eruption?

2. What is one important similarity between Johnston's account and the resident's account?

3. How do Johnston's and the resident's points of view differ? Use information about their locations or experiences.

4. Why did the resident's family watch the eruption from a safer town instead of from their home?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly three sentences comparing Johnston's account with the resident's account. In sentence 1, state one similarity. In sentence 2, give one detail from each account that shows a difference. In sentence 3, explain why their views differ, using their experiences.

ANSWER KEY

Two Views, One Eruption

GRADE 5 · 5.RI.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline details that show geologist David Johnston's point of view, and circle details that show the resident's point of view. In the margin, write S beside one similarity and D beside one difference between the accounts. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the growing bulge on the volcano affect David Johnston's actions before the eruption?	**Because Johnston studied the growing bulge, he warned that the volcano could erupt.**
2	What is one important similarity between Johnston's account and the resident's account?	**Both accounts show that the Mount St. Helens eruption was dangerous.**
3	How do Johnston's and the resident's points of view differ? Use information about their locations or experiences.	**Johnston focused on scientific warning signs and the landslide from his ridge. The resident focused on dark ash, fear, and concern for neighbors after evacuating.**
4	Why did the resident's family watch the eruption from a safer town instead of from their home?	**Officials ordered evacuations, so the family left their home before the eruption.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Both accounts show that the eruption created danger for people near Mount St. Helens. Johnston focused on the landslide and warning signs, while the resident focused on dark ash and concern for neighbors. Their views differ because Johnston was studying the volcano from a ridge, while the resident had evacuated with her family.

For the open response, check for three sentences, one similarity, contrasting details from each account, and an explanation connected to each person's experience.