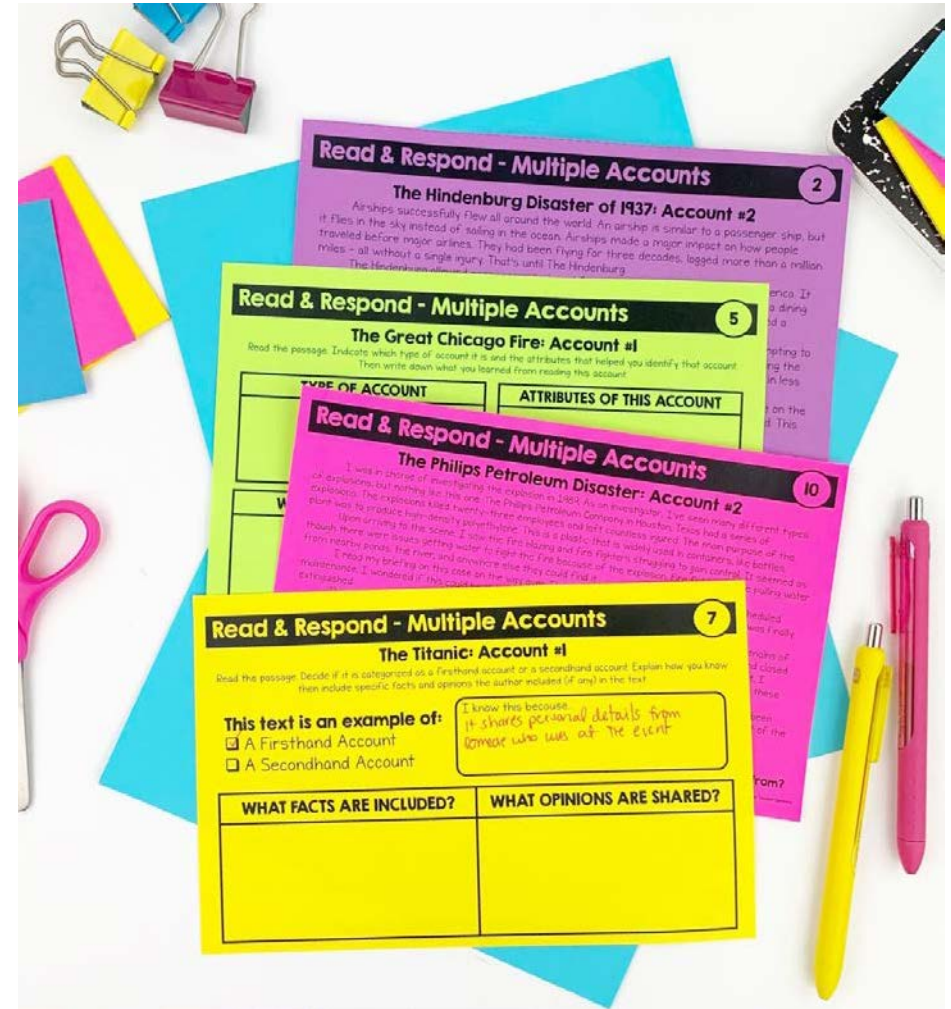
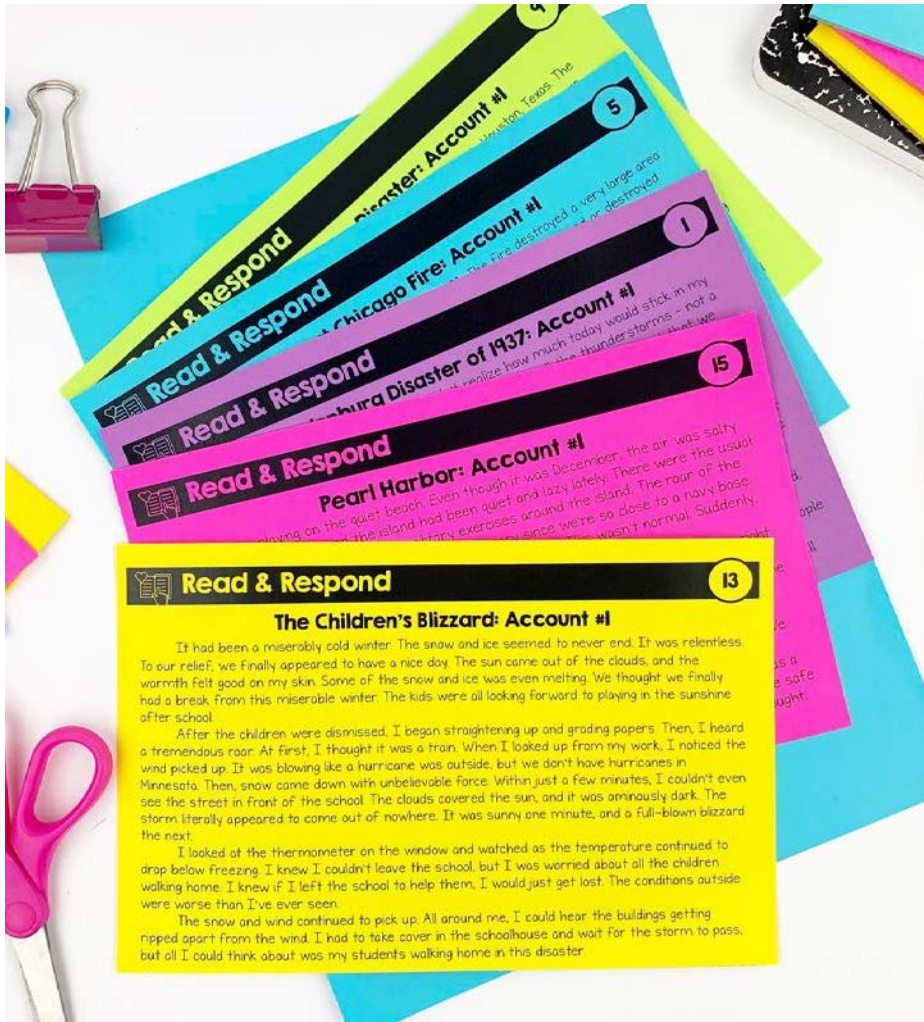


MULTIPLE ACCOUNTS

IDENTIFYING FIRSTHAND & SECONDHAND ACCOUNTS



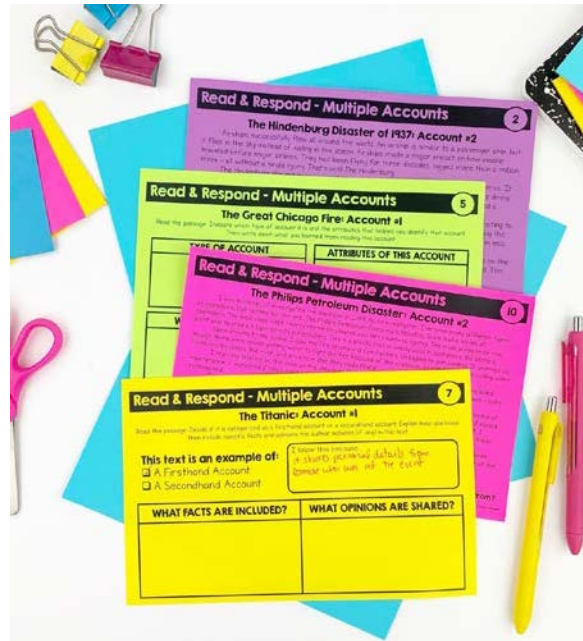
WHAT'S INCLUDED?

This resource includes 20 reading task cards that contain short passages that will help you teach, practice, and reinforce how to identify firsthand and secondhand accounts.

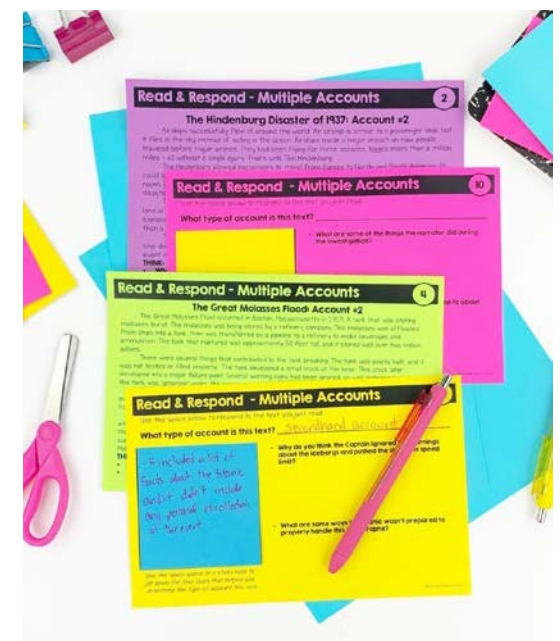
Task cards can be printed in three different ways.



Option #1 - Just the text



Option #2 - Text and Graphic Organizer Template

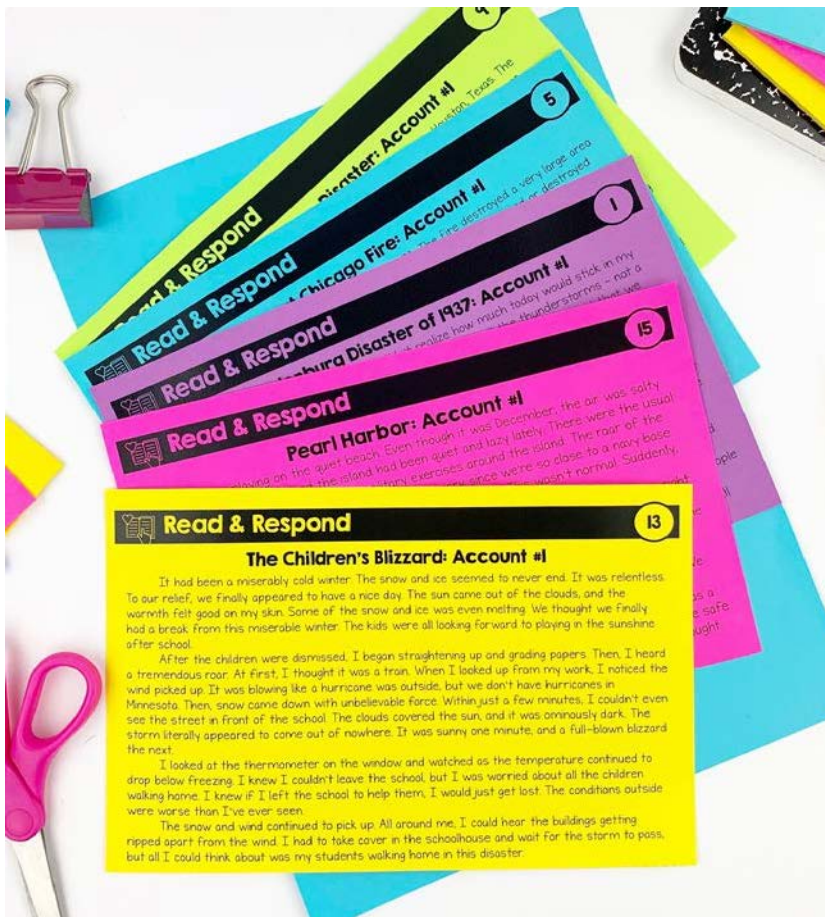


Option #3 - Text and Response Questions

Digital versions are included for all three sets of task cards.

Option #1 - Just the Text

One of the printing options for the task cards is to print JUST the text. Each task card has a short reading passages (takes up half a page). Each topic included is written in a first account example and a second account example. Students can read both accounts and determine which type of account each text is.

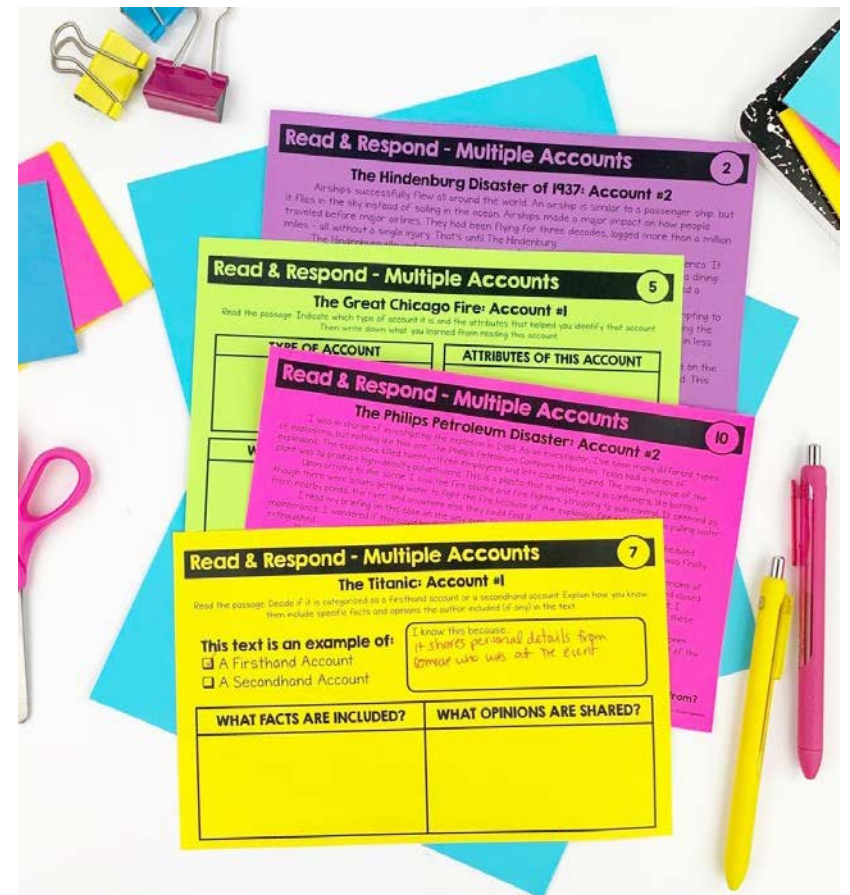


- This set of task cards is ideal if you want to use them in the “traditional” task card way.
- I suggest printing them on cardstock and either putting them all on a book ring or in a photo box.
- There are 3 options of reading response sheets included so students can read the passages and respond on a separate page.

Option #2 - Passage & Graphic Organizer

One of the printing options includes the passage and a graphic organizer template. These task cards can be printed front and back and work great in a center, as part of your small group instruction, or even for guided practice.

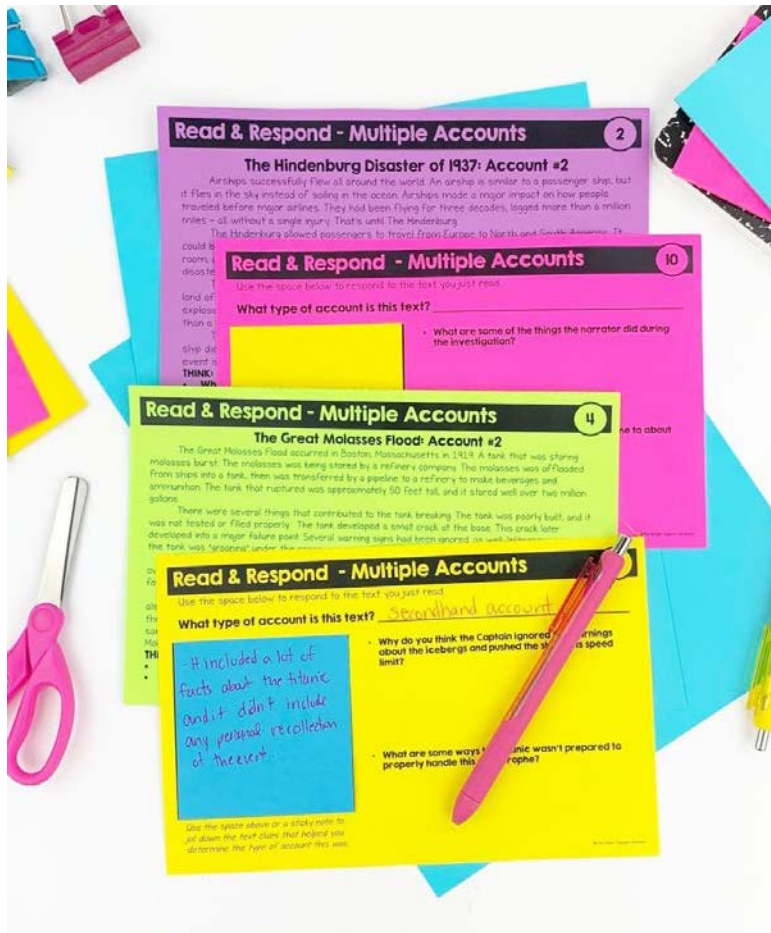
- On the front of each task card is a short reading passage (the same numbers and titles as option #1).
- The bottom of each task card includes a few questions to prompt students to think about the type of account the text is.
- On the back, there is a graphic organizer template that will help students think about the details included in that specific type of account and how the perspective influences those details.



Digital versions are included for all three sets of task cards.

Option #3 - Passage & Response Questions

One of the printing options includes the passage and reading response questions. These task cards can be printed front and back and work great in a center, as part of your small group instruction, or even for guided practice.



- On the front of each task card is a short reading passage (the same numbers and titles as option #1).
- The bottom of each task card includes a few questions to prompt students to think about the type of account the text is.
- On the back, there is space for a sticky note so students can jot down text clues that helped them identify the type of account and answer a few questions.

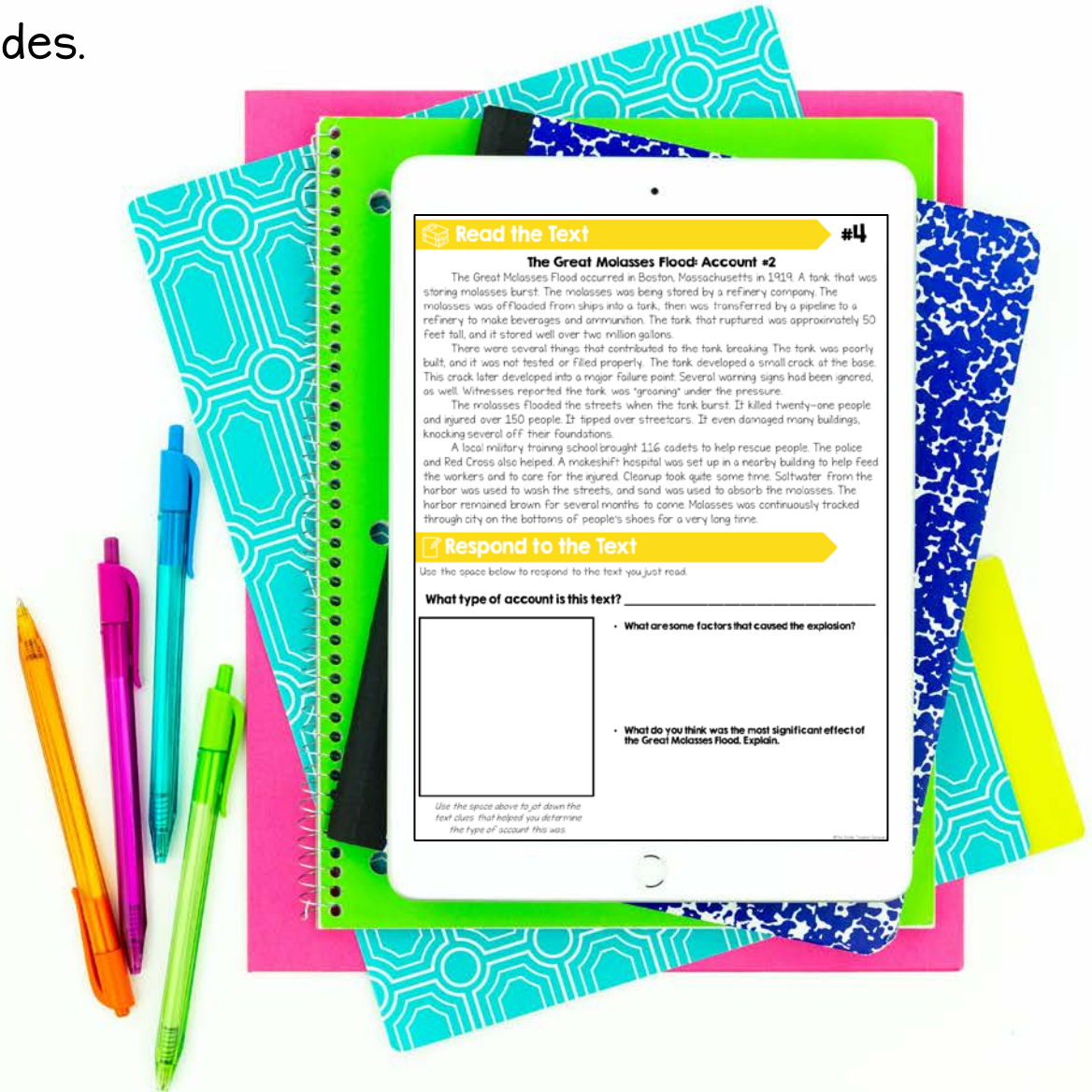
Digital versions are included for all three sets of task cards.

Includes Digital Versions

I love to provide both print and digital options in my resources. This resource includes a digital version created using Google Slides.

There are three different digital versions included (to match the three different printing options).

- **Option 1:** The text with a generic space for student response.
- **Option 2:** The text with the graphic organizer at the bottom (this one is pictured to the right)
- **Option 3:** The text with the text-based comprehension questions on the bottom.



A LOOK INSIDE...(option 1)

Read & Respond 1

The Hindenburg Disaster of 1937: Account #1

I really looked forward to today, but I didn't realize how much today would stick in my mind forever. When I woke up, the weather was gloomy from all the thunderstorms - not a good day for Flight My dad said the Hindenburg was delayed from the weather, but that we should still be able to see it land. This is what I was looking forward to - seeing an airship for the very first time!

Can you imagine flying from Germany all the way to New Jersey in an airship? Airships are so cool - it's like a passenger ship that flies, so you get there way faster! Anyways, The Hindenburg was set to land in my hometown today.

On our way, I had my face pressed against the window, looking up into the sky. I couldn't see anything from the storm. Finally, I spotted it. It was flying proudly above us. It looked like a giant flying submarine!

The ship slowed down in the gusty winds. Then the ropes dropped. The ground crew grabbed them. The ropes were attached to several winches on the ground. Then, it happened. Disaster struck out of nowhere. Flames were swirling all around the airship.

The tail smashed into the ground first. Then, the rest of the craft hit the ground. People were running out and screaming. This marvelous airship that was flying so proudly a few minutes ago, was now shattered in pieces on the ground. I couldn't believe my eyes as it all happened so fast. Rain started to drizzle down my face as I watched in horror.

Read & Respond 2

The Hindenburg Disaster of 1937: Account #2

Airships successfully flew all around the world. An airship is similar to a passenger ship, but it flies in the sky instead of sailing in the ocean. Airships made a major impact on how people traveled before major airlines. They had been flying for three decades, logged more than a million miles.

The Hindenburg also America. It could beat or accommodations including 6, 1937. The Hindenburg

There is a good deal attempting to land after and crashed during the d and consumed the airship.

The disaster killed 1 people on the ship died, 4 passengers survived. This on airships.

Read & Respond 7

The Titanic: Account #1

The ship cut through the waves effortlessly as it steamed across the Atlantic Ocean toward New York City. I couldn't believe how big the ship was and how luxurious some of the staterooms were. The Titanic was the largest ship in the world, and it was certainly the most impressive I'd ever seen. My job aboard the Titanic was a cabin steward. I kept the rooms clean for some of the richest passengers on board. I cleaned the rooms and made the beds. I also helped with stateroom food delivery.

After a long shift, I went up on deck to get some fresh air. The ocean was flat calm with fog lingering. I took a deep breath of the cold, salty ocean air. Suddenly, the ship jolted and stopped. I immediately saw it. An iceberg scraped down the right side of the ship. Ice sprayed all over the deck. I tried to remind myself that everyone said this ship was unsinkable. However, I became more and more unconvinced.

The ship slowly started to settle in the water over the next few hours. The crew and I began rushing around to gather passengers. We helped the panicked passengers put on their life jackets. We all went out on deck, as instructed by the captain. Despite the Titanic's many watertight compartments, water was flooding in everywhere.

I was able to get aboard a lifeboat. We quickly pushed away from the horror of the sinking Titanic. We watched in slow motion as the ship slipped under the water.

Read & Respond 8

The Titanic: Account #2

The Titanic was the largest passenger ship in the world at the time. It was advertised as unsinkable. The Titanic was set to sail from England to New York City. It departed England in April of 1912. The ship carried some of the wealthiest and most prominent people in the world. The first-class accommodations were loaded with amenities such as a gym, swimming pool, library, and restaurants.

Despite its reputation, the ship sank on its maiden voyage after only four days. The ship had a number of warnings about icebergs on its planned course. Even with all these warnings, the captain wanted to make the trip in record time. He pushed the ship as fast as it would go. He had lookouts for icebergs. The lookout spotted an iceberg at 11:40 pm. The ship attempted to avoid the iceberg by changing course and stopping the engine. Still, the right side of the side scraped across iceberg. The hull of the ship received tremendous damage that it could not withstand.

The ship started to sink on a really calm night. The ship did not have enough lifeboats for all the passengers and crew. Plus, the crew had not received proper training for an accident like this. Ocean water poured in the doors and portholes. Several hours later, the ship went under the water's icy surface. Another ship came and rescued the survivors. There were 2,224 passengers on the ship. Over 1,500 passengers died in this tragic accident. This event changed safety regulations and ship building for all future ships.

Read & Respond 3

The Great Molasses Flood: Account #1

The streets of Boston were packed, as people moved up and down the sidewalks. It appeared to be a normal day when a sudden rush of air knocked me off my feet. It almost knocked me over! I couldn't figure out what happened, but the air had a strange and almost sweet smell to it.

Curious, I went to investigate, and saw a truck flipped over in the middle of the street. A wave of Molasses came flying down the street out of nowhere. It picked me up before I could escape. I rode it down the street like a wave, as the thick molasses knocked over houses and anything else in its path.

The molasses had covered me from head to toe. My eyes were nearly stuck shut. My hair was stuck to my head. I stood up and looked around at the damage. I couldn't believe it, as I looked around in shock.

My brother ran towards me. He was covered in molasses, too. He explained that a tank that held molasses for a refinery exploded. We could see several buildings knocked over from the sudden flood of molasses.

We helped soldiers from the local military hose wash the streets. We also applied shovel after shovel of sand on the streets to help absorb the syrupy molasses. One thing was certain - it would take weeks to clean up this big, sticky mess.

Read & Respond 4

The Great Molasses Flood: Account #2

The Great Molasses Flood occurred in Boston, Massachusetts in 1919. A tank that was storing molasses burst. The molasses was being stored by a refinery company. The molasses was offloaded from ships into a tank, then was transferred by a pipeline to a refinery to make

When the tank that ruptured was approximately 50 feet tall, and it stored

Read & Respond 9

The Phillips Petroleum Disaster: Account #1

On October 23, 1989, a series of explosions happened at a facility in Houston, Texas. The blast was so strong that earthquake detection equipment picked it up. The Phillips Petroleum Disaster killed twenty-three employees and injured many more. The factory produced tremendous amounts of high-density polyethylene. This is a plastic that is widely used in many products, including bottles.

The explosion was caused by flammable gases escaping and filling the facility. The gas eventually came in contact with an ignition source. The cause of the leaky gases was related to scheduled maintenance of the facility. The factory used valves that were opened and closed by air pressure. The air hoses were disconnected as a safety measure when maintenance was being performed on the pipes. When put back together, the hoses were accidentally reversed. This allowed flammable gases to escape into the facility. The first explosion caused a second explosion. There was a chain reaction of six different explosions around the facility.

To further complicate matters, the explosions damaged some of the factory's firefighting equipment. This made the fire difficult to contain. It took over ten hours to tame the fire. Search and rescue efforts were also slowed due to the damage of the buildings. This caused a safety concern for anyone to enter the buildings.

Eventually, the factory was rebuilt. It continues to produce plastics, but with new safety measures and construction standards.

Read & Respond 10

The Phillips Petroleum Disaster: Account #2

I was in charge of investigating the explosion in 1989. As an investigator, I've seen many different types of explosions, but nothing like this one. The Phillips Petroleum Company in Houston, Texas had a series of explosions. The explosions killed twenty-three employees and left countless injured. The main purpose of the plant was to produce high-density polyethylene. This is a plastic that is widely used in containers, like bottles.

Upon arriving to the scene, I saw the fire blazing and fire fighters struggling to gain control. It seemed as though there were issues getting water to fight the fire because of the explosion. Fire fighters were pulling water from nearby ponds, the river, and anywhere else they could find it.

I read my briefing on this case on the way over. It was reported that the plant was under scheduled maintenance. I wondered if this could be the culprit of the explosions. After ten long hours, the fire was finally extinguished.

Then, it was time for me to analyze the wreckage. I scanned the blueprints as I walked the remains of the factory. It took me some time to figure it out. I eventually figured out that valves were opened and closed with air pressure. The open valve and the closed valve for air pressure were identical. This can't be right, I thought, how will they know if it's opened or closed? I knew that the explosion was somehow related to these valves.

After looking at the blueprints and studying the connections, I determined that these valves had been hooked up backwards. The valves they thought were closed, were actually open. Explosive vapor leaked out of the valves, then exploded.

Read & Respond 5

The Great Chicago Fire: Account #1

The Great Chicago Fire occurred on October 8th, 1871. The fire destroyed a very large area and killed around 300 people. It destroyed 33 square miles of the city. It burned or destroyed over 17,000 buildings and structures. The fire left many people homeless and caused many businesses to fail.

The exact cause of the fire is unknown, but there are many theories. One of the main contributing factors was the drought. It had been dry and windy for some time. It is believed that a cow or a person knocked over a lantern in a barn, which started the fire. The majority of the structures in the city were built out of wood. They also had tar roofs that easily burned.

There were issues with the fire department responding to the correct area. The fire grew unchecked while the firefighters were trying to locate it. The fire jumped from building to building while the wind carried embers. The embers jumped the river and set the other side of the city on fire. The firefighters were helpless when the water department building burned. This meant that the pipes that distributed water around the city were not operational. The fire eventually burned itself out with the help of a light rain.

In the aftermath, the military and volunteers helped restore order in the city. More than 90,000 people were homeless. The city changed how buildings were to be built in the future. Chicago also worked on developing a proper fire department. They soon had the leading firefighting operation in the United States.

Read & Respond 6

The Great Chicago Fire: Account #2

I was staring out the window in the dark, lost in thought. I was worrying about how bad the drought has been. Everything is so dry because we haven't had any rain in ages. This was consuming my thoughts until I noticed a small light coming from a wooden barn by the alley.

What if that light was a fire? I thought. I was worried about how bad the drought has been. Everything is so dry because we haven't had any rain in ages. This was consuming my thoughts until I noticed a small light coming from a wooden barn by the alley.

Read & Respond 11

Joplin Tornado: Account #1

In 2011, a deadly tornado struck Joplin, Missouri. The tornado ripped across the southern part of the city before turning on the rural areas. The tornado killed 158 people and there were over 1,000 injuries reported. It was the deadliest tornado to hit the United States since 1947, and it was also the costliest tornado ever. It caused nearly \$3 billion worth of damage.

The storm first struck near the Missouri-Kansas line. Then, it headed east. The storm grew in intensity. The tornado eventually grew to be over one mile wide and traveled over 200 miles per hour. The city alerted as many people as they could with sirens, but some residents didn't hear the sirens in time. The tornado was on the ground for thirty-eight minutes. The storm grew in intensity and leveled buildings in its path. Many homes, businesses, and medical buildings were destroyed.

After the storm passed, damage assessments began. It is estimated that 7,000 houses were destroyed. People from all over came to help the city and the people of Joplin recover. Even a circus company used its elephants to help clean debris from the streets. It took Joplin many years to recover from the damages caused by this deadly tornado.

Read & Respond 12

Joplin Tornado: Account #2

We rolled up to the disaster site in a van loaded with camera equipment and a camera man. I felt exhilarating to know that we were the first ones on site. It was also devastating to see the effects of the disaster. I brushed my hair, opened the door, and started reporting.

"Good evening, folks. A tornado ripped through Joplin, Missouri today. There was a large outbreak of tornadoes. The tornado that destroyed this neighborhood was stronger than most. This is the third tornado to strike Joplin since 1971." The camera panned around to show the destruction. There were cars flipped over, houses completely leveled, and trees knocked down.

"The tornado grew in intensity and size so quickly that it gave people little to no opportunity to prepare. There have been 158 fatalities in the area. The damage will be well into the billions. One thing is for certain, it will take quite some time for life to get back to normal. This is Madison, reporting live on the Joplin Tornado."

As the camera man loaded up the van with equipment, I looked around in disbelief. I couldn't believe how much damage there was. The tornado struck so suddenly. In the blink of an eye, this area and its people were changed forever.

A LOOK INSIDE...(option 2)

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 1

The Hindenburg Disaster of 1937: Account #1

I really looked forward to today, but I didn't realize how much today would stick in my mind forever. When I woke up, the weather was gloomy from all the thunderstorms - not a good day for flight. My dad said the Hindenburg was delayed from the weather, but that we should still be able to see it land. This is what I was looking forward to - seeing an airship for the very first time!

Can you imagine flying from Germany all the way to New Jersey in an airship? Airships are so cool - it's like a passenger ship that flies, so you get there way faster! Anyways, the Hindenburg was set to land in my hometown today.

On our way, I had my face pressed against the window, looking up into the sky. I couldn't see anything from the storm. Finally, I spotted it. It was flying proudly above us. It looked like a giant flying submarine!

The ship slowed down in the gusty winds. Then the ropes dropped. The ground crew grabbed them. The ropes were attached to several winches on the ground. Then, it happened. Disaster struck out of nowhere. Flames were swirling hot all around the airship.

The tail smashed into the ground first. Then, the rest of the craft hit the ground. People were running out and screaming. This marvelous airship that was flying so proudly a few minutes ago, was now shattered in pieces on the ground. I couldn't believe my eyes as it all happened so fast. Rain started to drizzle down my face as I watched in horror.

THINK:

- What point of view is this account written from? How do you know?
- What type of account is this? What specific type of text could this be an excerpt from?

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 2

The Hindenburg Disaster of 1937: Account #2

Airships successfully flew all around the world. An airship is similar to a passenger ship, but it flies in the sky instead of sailing in the ocean. Airships made a major impact on how people traveled before major airlines. They had been flying for three decades, logged more than a million miles - all without a single injury. That's until The Hindenburg.

The Hindenburg allowed could beat an ocean liner in its room, a piano, and cabins with disaster that brought an end.

There is a good deal of land after multiple delays with explosion, flames engulfed it than a minute.

The disaster killed more ship died, as well as one group event is known as The Hindenburg.

THINK:

- What point of view is this account written from? How do you know?
- What type of account is this? What specific type of text could this be an excerpt from?

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 3

The Great Molasses Flood: Account #1

The streets of Boston were packed, as people moved up and down the sidewalks. It appeared to be a normal day when a sudden rush of air knocked me off my feet. It almost knocked me over! I couldn't figure out what happened, but the air had a strange and almost sweet smell to it.

Curious, I went to investigate, and saw a truck flipped over in the middle of the street. A wave of molasses came flying down the street out of nowhere. It picked me up before I could escape. I rode it down the street like a wave, as the thick molasses knocked over houses and anything else in its path.

The molasses had covered me from head to toe. My eyes were nearly stuck shut. My hair was stuck to my head. I stood up and looked around at the damage. I couldn't believe it, as I looked around in shock.

My brother ran towards me. He was covered in molasses, too. He explained that a tank that held molasses for a refinery exploded. We could see several buildings knocked over from the sudden flood of molasses.

We helped soldiers from the local military base wash the streets. We also applied shovel after shovel of sand on the streets to help absorb the syrupy molasses. One thing was certain - it would take weeks to clean up this big, sticky mess.

THINK:

- What point of view is this account written from? How do you know?
- What type of account is this? What specific type of text could this be an excerpt from?

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 4

The Great Molasses Flood: Account #2

The Great Molasses Flood occurred in Boston, Massachusetts in 1919. A tank that was storing molasses burst. The molasses was being stored by a refinery company. The molasses was offloaded from ships into a tank, then was transferred by a pipeline to a refinery to make beverages and ammunition. The tank that ruptured was approximately 50 feet tall, and it stored well over two million gallons.

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 5

The Great Chicago Fire: Account #1

The Great Chicago Fire occurred on October 8th, 1871. The fire destroyed a very large area and killed around 300 people. It destroyed 33 square miles of the city. It burned or destroyed over 17,000 buildings and structures. The fire left many people homeless and caused many businesses to fail.

The exact cause of the fire is unknown, but there are many theories. One of the most contributing factors was the drought. It had been dry and windy for some time. It is believed that a cow or a person knocked over a lantern in a barn, which started the fire. The majority of the structures in the city were built out of wood. They also had rat roofs that easily burned.

There were issues with the fire department responding to the correct area. The fire grew unchecked while the firefighters were trying to locate it. The fire jumped from building to building, while the wind carried embers. The embers jumped the river and set the other side of the city on fire. The firefighters were helpless when the water department building burned. This meant that the pipes that distributed water around the city were not operational. The fire eventually burned itself out with the help of a light rain.

In the aftermath, the military and volunteers helped restore order in the city. More than 90,000 people were homeless. The city changed how buildings were to be built in the future. Chicago also worked on developing a proper fire department. They soon had the leading firefighting operation in the United States.

THINK:

- What point of view is this account written from? How do you know?
- What type of account is this? What specific type of text could this be an excerpt from?

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 6

The Great Chicago Fire: Account #2

I was staring out the window in the dark, lost in thought. I was worrying about how bad the drought has been. Everything is so dry because we haven't had any rain in ages. This was consuming my thoughts until I noticed a small light coming from a wooden barn by the alley. Then, I realized that it wasn't a light. It was a flame. Frozen in shock, I watched as the flames quickly engulfed the barn, then to it.

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 1

The Hindenburg Disaster of 1937: Account #1

Read the passage. Decide if it is categorized as a firsthand account or a secondhand account. Explain how you know then include specific facts and opinions the author included (if any) in the text.

This text is an example of:

I know this because...

A Firsthand Account

A Secondhand Account

WHAT FACTS ARE INCLUDED?	WHAT OPINIONS ARE SHARED?

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 3

The Great Molasses Flood: Account #1

Read the passage. Indicate which type of account it can be labeled then answer the questions in the boxes below to share your thinking about this type of account.

How do you know what type of account this is?

What is the author's purpose in writing this account?

Type of account:

What perspective is this account written from?

What specific type of text might include this excerpt?

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 5

The Great Chicago Fire: Account #1

Read the passage. Indicate which type of account it is and the attributes that helped you identify that account. Then write down what you learned from reading this account.

TYPE OF ACCOUNT	ATTRIBUTES OF THIS ACCOUNT

WHAT I LEARNED FROM AN ACCOUNT WITH THIS PERSPECTIVE

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 2

The Hindenburg Disaster of 1937: Account #2

Read the passage. Decide if it is categorized as a firsthand account or a secondhand account. Explain how you know then include specific facts and opinions the author included (if any) in the text.

This text is an example of:

I know this because...

A Firsthand Account

A Secondhand Account

WHAT FACTS ARE INCLUDED?	WHAT OPINIONS ARE SHARED?

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 4

The Great Molasses Flood: Account #2

Read the passage. Indicate which type of account it can be labeled then answer the questions in the boxes below to share your thinking about this type of account.

How do you know what type of account this is?

What is the author's purpose in writing this account?

Type of account:

What perspective is this account written from?

What specific type of text might include this excerpt?

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 6

The Great Chicago Fire: Account #2

Read the passage. Indicate which type of account it is and the attributes that helped you identify that account. Then write down what you learned from reading this account.

TYPE OF ACCOUNT	ATTRIBUTES OF THIS ACCOUNT

WHAT I LEARNED FROM AN ACCOUNT WITH THIS PERSPECTIVE

A LOOK INSIDE...(option 3)

Read & Respond 1

The Hindenburg Disaster of 1937: Account #1

I really looked forward to today, but I didn't realize how much today would stick in my mind forever. When I woke up, the weather was gloomy from all the thunderstorms - not a good day for flight. My dad said the Hindenburg was delayed from the weather, but that we should still be able to see it land. This is what I was looking forward to - seeing an airship for the very first time!

Can you imagine flying from Germany all the way to New Jersey in an airship? Airships are so cool - it's like a passenger ship that flies, so you get there way faster! Anyway, the Hindenburg was set to land in my hometown today.

On our way, I had my face pressed against the window, looking up into the sky. I couldn't see anything from the storm. Finally, I spotted it. It was flying proudly above us. It looked like a giant flying submarine!

The ship slowed down in the gusty winds. Then the ropes dropped. The ground crew grabbed them. The ropes were attached to several winches on the ground. Then, it happened. Disaster struck out of nowhere. Flames were swirling hot all around the airship.

The tail smashed into the ground first. Then, the rest of the craft hit the ground. People were running out and screaming. This marvelous airship that was flying so proudly a few minutes ago, was now shattered in pieces on the ground. I couldn't believe my eyes as it all happened so fast. Rain started to drizzle down my face as I watched in horror.

THINK:

- What point of view is this account written from? How do you know?
- What type of account is this? What specific type of text could this be an excerpt from?

Read & Respond 2

The Hindenburg Disaster of 1937: Account #2

Airships successfully flew all around the world. An airship is similar to a passenger ship, but it flies in the sky instead of sailing in the ocean. Airships made a major impact on how people traveled before major airlines. They had been flying for three decades, logged more than a million miles - all without a single injury. That's until The Hindenburg.

The Hindenburg allowed passengers to travel in a room, a piano, and cabins with disaster that brought an end to the airship.

There is a good deal of land after multiple delays with explosion. Flames engulfed it in less than a minute.

The disaster killed more than 30 people, as well as one crew member. The Hindenburg is known as The Hindenburg Disaster.

THINK:

- What point of view is this account written from? How do you know?
- What type of account is this? What specific type of text could this be an excerpt from?

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 1

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of account is this text?

- What was significant about this day from the perspective of the narrator?

- What are some opinions the narrator has about airships?

Use the space above or a sticky note to jot down the text clues that helped you determine the type of account this was.

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 2

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of account is this text?

- Use details from the text to describe an airship.

- List three facts about the Hindenburg.

Use the space above or a sticky note to jot down the text clues that helped you determine the type of account this was.

Read & Respond 3

The Great Molasses Flood: Account #1

The streets of Boston were packed, as people moved up and down the sidewalks. It appeared to be a normal day when a sudden rush of air knocked me off my feet. It almost knocked me over! I couldn't figure out what happened, but the air had a strange and almost sweet smell to it.

Curious, I went to investigate, and saw a truck flipped over in the middle of the street. A wave of molasses came flying down the street out of nowhere. It picked me up before I could escape. I rode it down the street like a wave, as the thick molasses knocked over houses and anything else in its path.

The molasses had covered me from head to toe. My eyes were nearly stuck shut. My hair was stuck to my head. I stood up and looked around at the damage. I couldn't believe it, as I looked around in shock.

My brother ran towards me. He was covered in molasses, too. He explained that a tank that held molasses for a refinery exploded. We could see several buildings knocked over from the sudden flood of molasses.

We helped soldiers from the local military base wash the streets. We also applied shovel after shovel of sand on the streets to help absorb the syrupy molasses. One thing was certain - it would take weeks to clean up this big, sticky mess.

THINK:

- What point of view is this account written from? How do you know?
- What type of account is this? What specific type of text could this be an excerpt from?

Read & Respond 4

The Great Molasses Flood: Account #2

The Great Molasses Flood occurred in Boston, Massachusetts in 1919. A tank that was storing molasses burst. The molasses was being stored by a refinery company. The molasses was offloaded from ships into a tank, then was transferred by a pipeline to a refinery to make beverages and ammunition. The tank that ruptured was approximately 50 feet tall, and it stored well over two million gallons of molasses.

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 3

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of account is this text?

- How did the Great Molasses Flood personally impact the narrator?

- Use text details to explain how the explosion destroyed parts of Boston.

Use the space above or a sticky note to jot down the text clues that helped you determine the type of account this was.

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 4

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of account is this text?

- What are some factors that caused the explosion?

- What do you think was the most significant effect of the Great Molasses Flood. Explain.

Use the space above or a sticky note to jot down the text clues that helped you determine the type of account this was.

Read & Respond 5

The Great Chicago Fire: Account #1

The Great Chicago Fire occurred on October 8th, 1871. The fire destroyed a very large area and killed around 300 people. It destroyed 33 square miles of the city. It burned or destroyed over 17,000 buildings and structures. The fire left many people homeless and caused many businesses to fail.

The exact cause of the fire is unknown, but there are many theories. One of the most contributing factors was the drought. It had been dry and windy for some time. It is believed that a cow or a person knocked over a lantern in a barn, which started the fire. The majority of the structures in the city were built out of wood. They also had rat roofs that easily burned.

There were issues with the fire department responding to the correct area. The fire grew unchecked while the firefighters were trying to locate it. The fire jumped from building to building, while the wind carried embers. The embers jumped the river and set the other side of the city on fire. The firefighters were helpless when the water department building burned. This meant that the pipes that distributed water around the city were not operational. The fire eventually burned itself out with the help of a light rain.

In the aftermath, the military and volunteers helped restore order in the city. More than 90,000 people were homeless. The city changed how buildings were to be built in the future. Chicago also worked on developing a proper fire department. They soon had the leading firefighting operation in the United States.

THINK:

- What point of view is this account written from? How do you know?
- What type of account is this? What specific type of text could this be an excerpt from?

Read & Respond 6

The Great Chicago Fire: Account #2

I was staring out the window in the dark, lost in thought. I was worrying about how bad the drought has been. Everything is so dry because we haven't had any rain in ages. This was consuming my thoughts until I noticed a small light coming from a wooden barn by the alley. Then, I realized that it wasn't a light. It was a flame. Frozen in shock, I watched as the flames quickly engulfed the barn, then

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 5

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of account is this text?

- What are some facts you learned about the Great Chicago Fire from the text?

- According to the text, how do some people believe the fire started?

Use the space above or a sticky note to jot down the text clues that helped you determine the type of account this was.

Read & Respond - Multiple Accounts 6

Use the space below to respond to the text you just read.

What type of account is this text?

- What was the narrator of the text originally worried about?

- Describe what the narrator saw and heard.

Use the space above or a sticky note to jot down the text clues that helped you determine the type of account this was.

Hey! Let's be friends!

Click the icon below to follow me on social media.



Looking for new ideas and easy-to-implement strategies?

Tune in to the [Stellar Teacher Podcast](#) each week to hear me share actionable strategies that will help take you to the next level of your teaching career!

Click [HERE](#) to listen!