

# COMPARE & CONTRAST



author presentation

Underline the text evidence in the

Passages present the cruise line's responsibility for



1 and Passage 2 show that the cruise line could have saved many lives by providing more lifeboats. Passage 1 and Passage 2 claim that the cruise line ignored the danger of a fire on board.

Passage 1 blames only the captain for the disaster, while Passage 2 blames the captain and the cruise line's decisions. Passage 1 states that the White Star Line did not train the crew for emergencies, while Passage 2 states that the cruise line made a dangerous decision to head out to sea with the ship on fire.

Passage 1 states that "the catastrophe was due to criminal negligence. The captain had been warned of the ice fields, but he did not slow down. Does Passage 2 agree with this statement? Explain your answer.



the fact that the ship was traveling at a high speed, it also states a possible reason for the ship catching fire. Due to a fire on board, the captain was forced to stop the ship down, even though he knew the ship was on fire.



970L

Compare & Contrast  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Who Was to Blame for the Titanic Disaster?**  
1. Nearly everyone has heard the story of the Titanic. The massive, lavishly furnished cruise ship...

840L

Compare & Contrast  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

many of the women were put to work aiding in rowing away from the sinking ship. Taft's aide, take charge of one section of the boat and direct the children in his charge. It is that ash huge ship struck...

840L

Compare & Contrast  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Passenger Declares Wreck Due to Carelessness**  
Adapted from an article on page 8 of the April 26, 1912 issue of the Oregon City Enterprise.  
1. The Carpathia docked tonight with 745 survivors of the wreck of the Titanic. The survivors between sobs told the story of the disaster. The number of dead is 1601. All could have been saved had there been sufficient life boats on the great vessel. The company is blamed. The story of the disaster briefly told is as follows:  
The captain had been warned that the vessel was in the vicinity of ice fields. In fact they had been there before by the ship kept up for more than four hours. The captain had been warned that the vessel was in the vicinity of ice fields. In fact they had been there before by the ship kept up for more than four hours. The captain had been warned that the vessel was in the vicinity of ice fields. In fact they had been there before by the ship kept up for more than four hours.



# COMPARE & CONTRAST PRESENTATIONS

6<sup>th</sup> grade

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\*This product includes 12 Lexile® leveled stories in the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band\* (the range for 6<sup>th</sup> grade is 925L-1185L).

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2. Perceptions about the Titanic Disaster
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\* Passages containing original content may fall above or below the Sixth Grade Common Core Text Complexity Bands.



# ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS



MagiCore Learning, LLC is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure that students are college and career ready by the end of 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction, as well as monitor reading growth.

Grade Band	Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations
K-1	N/A
2-3	420L-820L
4-5	740L-1010L
6-8	925L-1185L

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."





# Compare & Contrast Author Presentation

When different authors write about the same topic, each author presents the information about the topic. An author's perspective is evident in the information provided about a subject.

Each author has their own unique perspective. Different ideas, positions, or

When an author

presentation of events in order to make a point. To present the facts, present the

through the city

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## Compare & Contrast Author Presentation

**Compare & Contrast the Presentation of Events:** Reread the above texts. Circle details that are presented similarly in both texts. Underline details that are presented differently.

**Compare & Contrast Details Presented:** Fill out the chart below by listing details that are presented in both texts and details that are only presented in one of the texts.

Lady Bird Johnson	Both	Biography
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 On their way to a luncheon</li> <li>2 There were 3 total shots fired</li> <li>3 Driving down a hill, rounding a curve</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 There were gunshots from a building</li> <li>2 The Secret Service helped</li> <li>3 They were driving through a lively crowd</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 The motorcade was driving through Dallas</li> <li>2 JFK was in a convertible with the top down</li> <li>3 The assassin's name was Lee Harvey Oswald</li> </ol>

The two texts present events differently because they were written for different purposes. Answer the following questions about each author's purpose based on the presentation of events from each passage.

1. How does Lady Bird Johnson's purpose for writing her memoir differ from the biographer's?  
 Lady Bird Johnson's purpose was to give perspective of the event from her point of view. The biographer's purpose was to share information from JFK's angle.

2. How does the author's purpose affect the facts presented in these two texts?  
 The author's purpose affects the facts that are presented because the firsthand account is going to share details that Lady Bird Johnson noticed as she traveled two years behind the President. The biography is going to share facts that pertain to the President's experience.

3. Why does Lady Bird Johnson present facts that are not presented by the biographer?  
 Lady Bird Johnson shared firsthand observations of the experience, such as the gunshots sounding like they came from above her right shoulder. The biographer wasn't at the event and cannot recall specific details. She or she is retelling the story based around information gathered after the shooting.



1060L

Compare &amp; Contrast

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Two Perspectives on the Siege of Vicksburg

### Passage 2: Douglas J. Cater

This letter was written by a Confederate soldier from Texas stationed 47 miles east of Vicksburg in Jackson, Mississippi. Union forces had burned and looted Jackson a month earlier while marching to Vicksburg.

Jackson, Miss., June 15, 1863

Dear Em:

Many days have passed since I have been the recipient of a communication from your pen. To these days have been added weeks and to weeks months and no white messenger finds its way to make glad the heart, or to cheer in lonely, dark, and sad hours. Sometimes I feel like I had been blotted from your memorandum of friends, but then I remember that, by the presence of an invading communication across the Mississippi River has been cut off. And then I know worse than vain to expect letters from friends beyond the river.

The Yankees have been in this city. They came here just before their on Vicksburg before our men could concentrate in a body sufficiently large to them. The loss in government property here was heavy. It would amount to millions of dollars. This was once a beautiful city, but the ruins of homes and firesides show that armies are all in the tented field. Women are now take away much of its beauty. The young lady of a country girl whose pride was once guiding the plow. The young lady of diamonds, which once touched nothing the leaves of her books, has taken the Yankees have taken her father's Ne

he eyes of the world are now turned of this war depends on the result of here will be no peace. If we do not let know the result.

have doubtless heard of the late battle that of the enemy (so say Yankee news in regard to our army or its except this scroll.

### Compare & Contrast

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. Both William G. Christie and Douglas J. Cater agreed that the siege of Vicksburg was:

- grand to behold.
- costly to the South.
- lonely, dark, and sad.
- exciting for the North.

2. Both passages discuss the impact of: (Choose all that apply.)

- proper spelling and punctuation.
- Ulysses S. Grant's military decisions.
- controlling the Mississippi River.
- intercepted communications.

What do the two letter writers have to say about the women of Mississippi?

Two letter writers discuss the challenges women faced from the siege of Vicksburg. In passage 1, the author states that several of their women have been in passage 2, the author shares how women have taken on the man's role at home. For example, instead of just cooking in the kitchen, they are running the plow.

1150L

Compare &amp; Contrast

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Two Perspectives on the Siege of Vicksburg

### Passage 1: William G. Christie

1. On May 31, 1863, with the American Civil War was in the middle of its third bloody year, Ulysses S. Grant had taken Vicksburg.

Mississippi residents have:

and sin.  
and children die.  
s with Negroes.  
military forces.

What are the attitudes of the two letter writers about the American people? Use evidence from the passages.

es between the two passages  
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Answer the following questions in the color indicated.

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- b. should never**
- c. represents the
- d. can be disre

2. Colin Kaepernick' different impressior

- a. they have  
b. they have  
c. they have  
d. they live i

3. Colin Kaepern  
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Colin Kaepernick  
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## 1090L

## Compare & Contrast

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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- 10.** W protest by th criticized. O 49ers footbi Pence tweet dignify any Anthem."

## 1090L

### Compare & Contrast

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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6. After Kaepernick met Kaepernick de be more respe

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### 3. Making Their Stance

3. **Their Stance**
- In August 2016, Colin Kaepernick, quarterback for the San Francisco 49ers, sat on the bench while the national anthem was being played. People didn't notice until a photo circulated of Kaepernick sitting during the third preseason game. Kaepernick chose to sit during the anthem in protest of how minorities are treated in the United States and issues regarding police brutality against African Americans. He stated that:
- "I'm going to continue to stand with the people that are oppressed. To me this is something that has to change. There's significant change and I feel like that's supposed to represent, this country, the way that it's supposed to be. It's because I'm seeing the voice, people that don't have their voices heard."*

I'm going to continue to stand with the people that are being oppressed. To me this is something that has to change. When there's significant change and I feel like that flag represents what it's supposed to represent, this country is representing people the way that it's supposed to. I'll stand. This stand wasn't for me. This is because I'm seeing things happen to people that don't have a voice, people that don't have a platform to talk and have their voices heard, and effect change. So I'm in the position where I can do that and I'm going to do that for people that can't.

Protesting the National Anthem

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

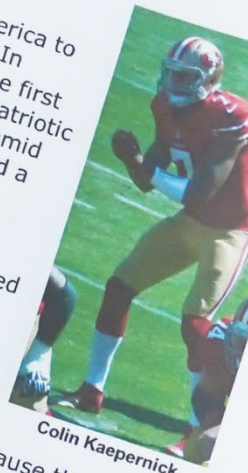
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Testing the National Anthem

1. Since 1891, it has been a custom in America to stand while "The Star-Spangled Banner" is played. In 1918, "The Star-Spangled Banner" was played at the first game of the World Series. The performance of this patriotic song had a large effect on Americans since this was amid World War I. In 1931, President Herbert Hoover signed a bill to make "The Star-Spangled Banner" the national anthem for America.

2. During World War II, playing "The Star-Spangled Banner" at baseball games became a tradition soon spread to other sports.

2. During World War II, playing "The Star-Spangled Banner" at baseball games became a standard practice. This tradition soon spread to football games, as well. After World War II, NFL Commissioner Elmer Layden requested that "The Star-Spangled Banner" be played at all games. He stated, "The national anthem should be as much a part of every game as the kick-off. We must not drop it simply over. We should never forget what it stands for in the locker room while the anthem was being played."



Colin Kaepernick



many of the women were  
work aiding in rowing  
the sinking ship.

## Compare &amp; Contrast

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Who Was to Blame for the Titanic Disaster?

Nearly everyone has heard the story of the Titanic. The massive, lavish cruise ship sank in a swirl of icy water over a century ago, taking thousands of unfortunate passengers to a watery grave. Many people believe that this was the fault of the ship's captain. Some say that Captain Edward Smith ignored warnings that the ship was approaching icebergs and carelessly drove the Titanic forward at high speed. There is no doubt that the Titanic hit an iceberg and subsequently sank. Captain Smith's character traits in the stories make it difficult to live to tell the tale. Several recent books have cast doubt on the claim that it was his fault.

One interesting fact about the Titanic was that it was the first ship to sink after a fire on board. The ship was named after a city named Rome. The ship has good records of the fire on board that led to the ship to crash.

iceberg and then sink. A fire on board a ship? It's not as strange as you might think. At the time of the disaster, cruise ships were powered by coal – and it took a lot of coal to power a ship that size! There were 800 tons of coal on board the Titanic, and that coal was on fire before the ship even set sail.

3. This coal fire contributed to the sinking of the Titanic in two ways. First, it forced the ship to travel at high speed.

## Compare &amp; Contrast

Answer the following questions. Underline color indicated.

1. How do the two passages compare in the Titanic disaster?

- Passage 1 is more concerned about the disaster than Passage 2.
- Passage 1 is more concerned about the disaster than Passage 2.

trial of the  
passages?

hat the  
went  
boat

Following statements  
think the Titanic is true

- Both passages agree that the ship hit the iceberg.
- Both passages agree that the iceberg was the cause of the sinking of the Titanic.
- The passages disagree about whether or not the Titanic actually hit an iceberg.
- The passages disagree about whether or not anyone realized there were icebergs in the area.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Passenger Declares Wreck Due to Carelessness

Adapted from an article on page 8 of the April 26, 1912 issue of the Oregon City Enterprise

1. The Carpathia docked tonight with 745 survivors of the wreck of the Titanic. The survivors between sobs told the captain that the ship was a disaster. The number



## Compare &amp; Contrast

4. How do the two passages present the cruise line's responsibility for the Titanic disaster?

- Both Passage 1 and Passage 2 show that the cruise line could have saved many lives by providing more lifeboats.
- Both Passage 1 and Passage 2 claim that the cruise line underestimated the danger of a fire on board.
- Passage 1 blames only the captain for the disaster, while Passage 2 blames the captain and the cruise line's decisions.
- Passage 1 states that the White Star Line did not train the crew of the Titanic for emergencies, while Passage 2 states that the cruise line made a dangerous decision to head out to sea with the kitchens on fire.

5. Passage 1 states that "the catastrophe was due to criminal carelessness. The captain had been warned of the ice fields, but he kept the ship going at twenty two knots an hour." Does Passage 2 support or contradict this statement? Explain your answer.

Passage 2 supports the fact that the ship was traveling at a high speed, however, it also states a possible reason for the ship traveling that fast. Due to a fire on board, the captain was unable to slow the ship down, even though he knew of the danger.



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## Passenger Declares Wreck Due to Carelessness

Adapted from an article on page 8 of the April 26, 1912 issue of the *Oregon City Enterprise*

**1.** The *Carpathia* docked tonight with 745 survivors of the wreck of the *Titanic*. Between sobs, the survivors told the story of the disaster. The number of dead is 1,601. All could have been saved had there been sufficient lifeboats on the great vessel. The company is blamed. The story of the disaster briefly told is as follows:

**2.** The captain had been warned that the vessel was in the vicinity of ice fields. In fact, they had been seen the day before by the passengers. However, the ship kept up a steady gait of more than twenty-two knots an hour. The sea was smooth at 11 o'clock Sunday night when most of the passengers retired. Sometime later, they were aroused by a loud crash. Many were thrown from their beds. It was not necessary to tell that the giant of the sea had crashed into an iceberg. She began sinking at once.

**3.** C. H. Stengel, one of those rescued, said that soon after the ship struck the iceberg,



hundreds of men leapt overboard. What became of them, no one knew, although it was believed that everyone drowned. He said that the catastrophe was due to criminal carelessness. The captain had been warned of the ice fields, but he kept the ship going at twenty-two knots an hour.

Immediately after the crash, the front end sank, and the rear end rose high in the air. Women and children rushed from their berths and were thrown into the lifeboats by the trained crew. There were not even enough skilled men to man the boats, and many of the



women were put to work to aid in rowing away from the sinking ship.

**4.** Miss Elizabeth Zonnell, another survivor, said that the bottom of the ship was ripped off by the impact. The band summoned to the deck played "Nearer My God to Thee" as the boat, its human freight, and the players themselves, went to their doom.

**5.** She saw John Jacob Astor kiss his bride of only a few months and ask if he could go with her. She saw a shudder come over him when told that he could not, and she saw him later aiding women and children to get into other lifeboats. She saw Major Archibald Butt, President

Taft's aide, take charge of one section of the boat and direct the placing of women and children in the smaller craft. Butt, she was sure, died a hero to duty.

**6.** Miss Zonnell said that immediately after the crash, huge chunks of ice fell upon the ship, and many people were struck by them. The vessel was doomed, and every person aboard realized it, but all except those crushed by the ice would have escaped had there been enough lifeboats. Miss Zonnell said that the wireless operator stuck to his post, but as she was leaving, a fight started in his compartment. He had a life preserver, and several men were trying to take it from him. The result of that fight will never be known.



Engraving by Willy Stöwer: *The Sinking of the Titanic*



## Who Was to Blame for the Titanic Disaster?

**1.** Nearly everyone has heard the story of the *Titanic*. The massive, lavish cruise ship went down in a swirl of icy water just over a century ago, taking hundreds of unfortunate passengers to a watery grave. Many people believe that this was the fault of the ship's captain. They say that Captain Edward Smith ignored warnings that the ship was approaching icebergs and carelessly drove the *Titanic* into danger at high speed. There is no doubt that the *Titanic* hit an iceberg and subsequently sank. However, was Captain Smith really the reckless character that the popular stories make him out to be? He didn't live to tell his story, but several recent theories have cast doubt on the claim that the accident was his fault.

**2.** One interesting theory is that the *Titanic* was speeding because of a fire on board. According to Sciencedaily.com, a professor at Ohio State University named Robert Essenhigh has good evidence that a fire on board the *Titanic* caused the ship to crash into an

iceberg and then sink. A fire on board a ship...it's not as strange as you might think. At the time of the disaster, cruise ships were powered by coal, and it took a lot of coal to power a ship that size! There were 800 tons of coal on board the *Titanic*, and that coal was on fire before the ship even set sail.

**3.** This coal fire contributed to the sinking of the *Titanic* in two ways. First, it forced the ship to travel at high speeds. Essenhigh explains that coal fires can't simply be put out. The only way to deal with a coal fire on a ship was to keep shoveling coal into the engines. As soon as a smoldering part of the coal was discovered, it needed to be shoveled into the engines before it could burst into flames and burn faster. This method was actually common practice for dealing with fires on board steamships. This meant that Captain Smith could not slow down the *Titanic*, even though he knew the dangers of speeding through the icy waters in the dark.



4. The fire may have caused a second problem, as well. Medium.com reports on research by Senan Malony that shows that the fire would have weakened the hull of the *Titanic*. After hitting an iceberg, the ship should have stayed afloat long enough for another ship to rescue everyone on board. However, the intense heat of the fire made the metal hull very weak. As a result, the iceberg caused much more damage than it should have, and the ship sank in an astonishing two hours.

5. No matter what caused the *Titanic* to sink, the reason it was such a disaster was the lack of lifeboats. At the time, there was no law requiring ships to carry enough lifeboats for everyone on board. The managing director of the cruise line, Bruce Ismay, believed that the *Titanic* was built so well that she could never sink. As a result, he decided that the ship should carry only 20 lifeboats – enough for only a third of the passengers and crew. If there had been enough boats, it is likely that the *Titanic* would not be famous today for being such a titanic disaster.



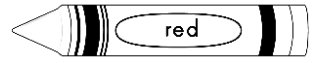
New York Herald Headline Showing the *Titanic* Disaster



## Compare & Contrast

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated.

1. How do the two passages compare in the way that they present the *Titanic* disaster?



- a. Passage 1 is more concerned with figuring out the cause of the disaster than Passage 2.
- b. Passage 1 is more focused on the personal stories of human tragedy than Passage 2.
- c. Passage 2 gives a less scientific account than Passage 1.
- d. Passage 2 criticizes the captain of the ship more than Passage 1.

2. How does the portrayal of the *Titanic*'s speed on the night of the crash differ in the two passages?



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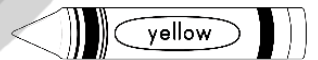
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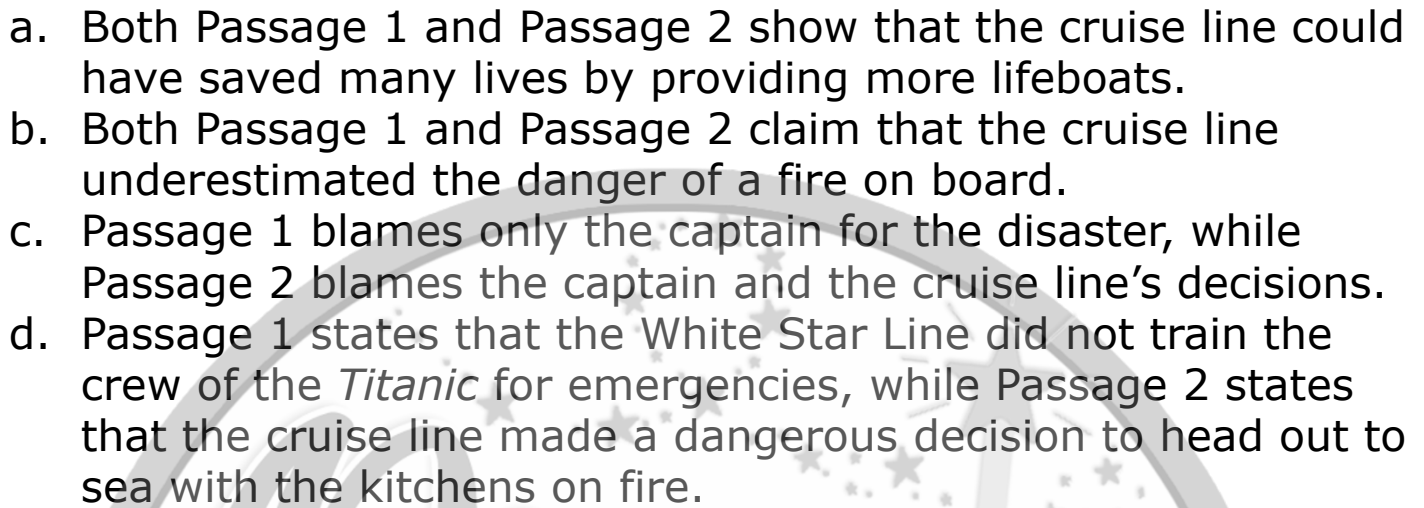
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3. Which of the following statements about the passages' discussions of the iceberg that sank the *Titanic* is true?



- a. Both passages agree that the *Titanic* could have avoided hitting the iceberg.
- b. Both passages agree that the iceberg played a huge role in the sinking of the *Titanic*.
- c. The passages disagree about whether or not the *Titanic* actually hit an iceberg.
- d. The passages disagree about whether or not anyone realized there were icebergs in the area.

4. How do the two passages present the cruise line's responsibility for the *Titanic* disaster?



5. Passage 1 states, “[T]he catastrophe was due to criminal carelessness. The captain had been warned of the ice fields, but he kept the ship going at twenty-two knots an hour.” Does Passage 2 support or contradict this statement? Explain your answer.





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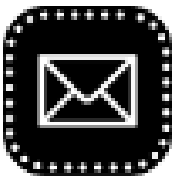
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# CREDITS

"Passenger Declares Wreck Due to Carelessness" is adapted from an article on page 8 of the April 26, 1912 issue of the Oregon City Enterprise.

"Mrs. Wilson Finds Real Happiness in Nursing President to Health" is adapted from an article by Zoe Beckley published in the "Women's Interest Section" of the Arizona Republican on September 12, 1920. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84020558/1920-09-12/ed-1/seq-16/>

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Remarks by President Obama at the 70th Anniversary of D-Day: All images curtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

