

Compare Two Accounts of the Same Fact

Meet the Meerkat - Grade K - Short lesson

TIME

OBJECTIVE

15 minutes Find a fact the book gives twice, once in the meerkat's words and once in somebody else's, and say what changes.

Essential question: Why does this book say some things twice?

Materials

Text to mark

PRODUCT

Boxes for the meerkat's version and the other version of the same fact, side by side

- The book The answer pages and the two later pages copied
- Prepared passages: Passage 3, Passage 4, Passage 9, Passage 10

Lesson sequence

1 What the meerkat said - 4 min

- Passage 3 - a meerkat lying flat on a mound with its tail curled up
- Passage 4 - four meerkats standing upright together against clouds
- Passage 9 - meerkats crossing open desert under a bank of cloud
- Passage 10 - a wide desert view with a cloud bank and a flat-topped tree

Focus:	Facts given in the first person
Teacher model:	Read these answers and write what the meerkat says about where and how it lives.
Prepared text:	Passage 3, Passage 4 2 Now the other voice - 7 min
Teacher direction:	Mark where these pages say something the meerkat already said.
Expected answer:	Living together, and liking the warm part of the day.
Prepared text:	Passage 9, Passage 10 3 What changed - 4 min
Teacher direction:	Say what is different about the words in the two versions.
Expected answer:	One says I and is about this meerkat; the other says they and is about all of them.
Prepared text:	Passage 4, Passage 10

Support & extension

Above: Say which of the two versions of a fact tells a reader more, and why the book might want both.

Below: Find one thing the meerkat says about itself and one page that says it

Assessment

- Pairs a first-person answer with a third-person page
- Notices the pronoun changes from I to they
- Says the second version is about all meerkats

