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

Guided Questions and Directions



1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire and the people it affected

**Directions**

Think about the question:

**How did the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire affect the people of San Francisco?**

You will be stepping back in time to be a reporter working for a San Francisco newspaper. You are asked to report on the 1906 earthquake and fire a week after the event happened.

Your editor has given you the responsibility to write a front-page newspaper article to show how the earthquake and fire affected people in San Francisco.

You will need to uncover different perspectives and write an article that engages your reader about the various events that happened throughout these catastrophes.

**Your newspaper article essay needs to:**

* Be written as though you were a reporter at the time of the earthquake and fire in 1906
* Include factual information
* Include different perspectives/eyewitness accounts

Brainstorm

What makes a good newspaper article?

Page 1 Lesson 1 – Stanza 9 “Poem of the Earthquake”

1) What are eyewitness accounts?

2) What is your reaction to this poem? Please explain your thoughts. How did this make you feel?

3) What do you think the poem means by “It was the drama of the world?”

Interview Questions

Please write down **3** interview questions that you would ask an eyewitness of the 1906 San Francisco Fire and Earthquake.

Remember, a good eyewitness interview question includes:

-Precise language; ask exactly what you want to know

- Open ended questions; go beyond a ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer. They draw on **emotions.**

1)

2)

3)

Excerpt 2: Dr. George Blumer’s Eyewitness Account of the Disaster

What are two things that stood out to you as your were reading this article?

1)

2)

Who is telling the ‘story’ in this article? How does this make the article more authentic?

What are two pieces of **evidence (quotes)** from this article that would help you write your newspaper article about the fire and earthquake?

1)

2)

Page 12 Lesson 4: “Casualties and Damage after the 1906 Earthquake”

Please read and annotate the article.

1) How many deaths were caused directly or indirectly from the catastrophe?

2) How many buildings were destroyed?

3) How much did the fire and earthquake cost the United States in estimated property damage?

**Article Choice**

What article did you choose to read and annotate?

Name of article:

Page and Lesson Number:

What are two facts from this eyewitness that could help you write your article?

1)

2)

**Writing your Newspaper Article:**

Transition sentences are very important in writing. This makes the piece flow smoothly.

The purpose of a transition sentence is to help the reader make connections between paragraphs, or to hint of a shift in the article.

Often, newspaper articles use transition words to signal a shift in time or place or even a different perspective.

**Some Words to Use:**

Topic Words: water, flooding, firefighters

Time Words: during, before, after, following

Place Words: here, there, nearby, beyond, next to

Contrast Words: however, yet, though, otherwise

Comparison Words: likewise, similarly, in the same way

Cause Words: because, since

Effect Words: Accordingly, therefore, on account of

**Outline**

**Paragraph One:**

* Introduce the topic that you are writing about
* Where did the fire and earthquake happen?
* When did it happen?
* Remember, you are writing as though you are living in that time.
* Example: Last week, a great fire and earthquake swept through the city of San Francisco destroying anything in its path. This even will surely be one that people in San Francisco will be remembering long after 1906.

**Paragraph Two:**

* How has the earthquake and fire affected the city and people of San Francisco?
* What damage has been done to the city?
* Give evidence – use at least 2 specific quotes/details from the articles to tell your readers what damage has been done

**Paragraph Three:**

* Perspective #1
* Who’s eyewitness account are you using?
* Give evidence – use at least 2 specific quotes from the articles to tell your readers what this eyewitness has seen/heard/done.

**Paragraph Four:**

* Perspective #2
* Who’s eyewitness account are you using?
* Give evidence – use at least 2 specific quotes from the articles to tell your readers what this eyewitness has seen/heard/done.

**Paragraph 5:**

* Add some of the ‘interesting facts discussed in the Inverted Pyramid. This is your chance to tell your readers some more information about the earthquake and fire.
* Add a strong ending sentence. This should leave your readers with emotion and should keep them thinking about the earthquake and fire
* Example: The San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906 had many devastating affects on the city and people who lived there, but it is evident that these people are hard working and determined to get return San Francisco to the amazing city it is.