

Grade 5 Below Standard

Prompt: Describe the effects of the spill on the penguins and the rescue efforts that followed. Support your piece with information from all three sources.

Exemplar A:

In all the articles were pictures that described the spill, like a map of South Africa and where the oil spill happened. We find out that it hurt the penguins and burned their eyes. All the sources give a good idea of what the environment looked like before the spill, and how the environment was very natural, rocky, and full of fish. The thousands of penguins could play and have fun on their clean, “rocky beach.” Pictures and the video also show the effects of the spill, like pictures of the penguins with the black oil on their bodies, and how miserable and sad they look. This makes the reader understand how horrible the penguins must have felt at the time, but it also shows the penguins being cleaned off and getting better with the help of volunteers, so those effects might last for a while, but not forever. The video explains how the rescue efforts worked: “They must restrain the penguin, pry its beak open, and shove the fish down its throat.” Each author told the same story in similar ways, but did not talk about how the spill happened and how it could be prevented.