

Lesson 2
Day 1

Date: _____

Point of View, Perspective,
Audience, and Voice

A story can be told from more than one **point of view**. If a story is written by someone who is a character in the story, then it is said that the story is written in **first-person point of view**. A person is a character if he was present when the events occurred. Stories written in first-person point of view use words like **I, me, my, mine, we, us, our**, and **ours** to tell the story. You will not have to perform any outlining for this lesson.

A. You will now write a one paragraph story in a **first-person point of view** about something you did yesterday.

A story can also be written from a **third-person point of view**. A story is written in third-person point of view when the person telling the story is **not** a character in the story (he wasn't there when the events occurred). When a story is told from a third-person point of view, the story teller (narrator) uses words like **he, she, him, her, his, it, its, they, their, theirs**, and **them**.

B. You will now write a one paragraph story in a **third-person point of view** about something a friend did recently. Remember, you are not a character in the story.

Point of View, Perspective,
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A. Answer these questions.

1. How do you know if a story is told in the **first-person** point of view?
 - a. The person telling the story is not a character in the story.
 - b. The person telling the story is a character in the story.
 - c. The person telling the story knows nothing about the story.
 - d. The person telling the story is telling the story for someone else.

2. What types of words does the story teller use if he is telling the story from a **third-person** point of view?
 - a. words like **which one, what kind** and **how many**
 - b. words like **he, she, him, her, his, it, its, they, their, theirs,** and **them**
 - c. words like **I, me, my, mine, we, us, our,** and **ours**
 - d. words like **this, that, these,** and **those**

3. How do you know if a story is told in the **third-person** point of view?
 - a. The person telling the story is telling the story about himself.
 - b. The person telling the story is not a character in the story.
 - c. The person telling the story knows nothing about the story.
 - d. The person telling the story is a character in the story.

4. What types of words does the story teller use if he is telling the story from a **first-person** point of view?
 - a. words like **which one, what kind** and **how many**
 - b. words like **I, me, my, mine, we, us, our,** and **ours**
 - c. words like **he, she, him, her, his, it, its, they, their, theirs,** and **them**
 - d. words like **this, that, these,** and **those**

Point of View, Perspective,
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While a story can be told from two different points of view, it can also be told from many different perspectives. **Perspective** is how we see or feel about something. It could mean that people describing the same event have differing opinions because they were physically located in different places and therefore saw the event differently, or for some reason their opinion is different from someone else who saw or heard about the same event.

Imagine that you are a race car driver in the Indianapolis 500 race. You would be racing around the track at warp speed, passing cars, and trying not to crash. Surely, as a race car driver, you would see things from a different perspective compared to someone sitting in the stands or watching the race at home on the television.

- A. You will now write a one paragraph story about how you would see the Indianapolis 500 race as a race car driver. You do not have to perform any outlining for this exercise.

- B. You will now write a one paragraph story about how you would see the Indianapolis 500 race as a fan in the stands watching the race. You do not have to perform any outlining for this exercise.

Point of View, Perspective,
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When we speak we use our **voice**. Is the speaker **happy**, **serious**, **angry**, or somewhere in between? Just like when you speak, when you write you also use a **voice** by using certain words and punctuation.

When writing you must always consider **what** you are writing and **to whom** you are writing. If your audience is a group of your friends, you might write **informally** with a **friendly voice**. On the other hand, if your audience is your boss, then it would probably be a good idea to write more **formally** with a more **serious voice**.

What is the difference between **formal** and **informal writing**? Informal writing is writing that **sounds** more like a casual conversation. A writer using informal language might use slang, funny language, jokes, abbreviations, or incomplete sentences. A formal writing style **sounds** formal since it does not use slang, funny language, jokes, abbreviations, or incomplete sentences.

A. Answer these questions.

1. What kind of writing would you use if you were writing a letter to a teacher?
 - a. happy
 - b. serious
 - c. angry
2. What kind of writing would you use if you were writing a letter to your friend?
 - a. formal
 - b. informal
 - c. angry voice
3. What kind of writing would you use if you were writing a letter to a potential employer?
 - a. happy
 - b. serious
 - c. angry
4. What kind of writing would you use if you were writing a letter to accompany a college application?
 - a. formal
 - b. informal
 - c. thankful

Lesson 2
Day 5

Date: _____

Point of View, Perspective,
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Below is a **formal** writing that is written using a **serious voice**. You will now need to turn this paragraph into an **informal** writing using a **happy** voice.

Dear Mr. Jones,

I am writing to thank you for the wonderful pen and pencil set I received for my recent graduation. As I start my new job next week at our local bank, it will be very nice to have a nice pen and pencil set for that professional look. You have always been a great friend of my family, and I just want to thank you and your wife for coming to my graduation party.

Best regards,

Ann Davies

A. _____

