

Grade 5 English Language Arts

Week of November 2 – November 6

Lesson 2: Conflict and Point of View

Point of View

Stories are usually written in either first person point of view or third person point of view.

What does this mean?

FIRST PERSON POINT OF VIEW



If a story is written in first person point of view, it means the story is written from the main character's eyes.

Here is an excerpt from *The Incredibly Ordinary Danny Chandelier* by Canadian author Laura Trunkey:

My stomach drops and **my** hand shoots off **my** lap and starts feeling around **my** pocket before **I** know what it's doing. I find the gold button and squeeze hard. The plane is tipping to one side and then the other, and Maggie bends over, her head pressed into her knees.

You can tell this is first person because the main character (Danny) refers to himself using the pronouns "my" and "I." There may be pronouns like "she" or "he" in first point of view perspective – but the KEY CLUES are seeing "me, myself, and I."

THIRD PERSON POINT OF VIEW

If a story is written in third person point of view, it means the story is written from the narrator's eyes.

Here is an excerpt from *Hexed Hair* by Canadian author Jennifer Lott:

The two orange cats distracted Eileen by rubbing themselves up against **her** legs. "Aww, Honey!" **she** cooed. "Rosey!"

Charlotte decided to finish breakfast. **She** sat beside Glenda at the table.

Meanwhile, Eileen took the cats into the living room. **She** pressed the demo button on the electric piano, tapping **her** fingers over the keys while the tune played itself.

You can tell this is third person because the main characters (Eileen, Charlotte, and Glenda) are referred to with the pronouns "her" and "she." You will not find "me, myself, and I" unless a character is using it in dialogue.



Journal #4: Write About an Interesting Day in Your Life

Directions: Write about an interesting day of your life – any day of your life that you want to. Write in the FIRST PERSON POINT OF VIEW. Use “I, me, myself, mine, etc.” as you write. Journal and diaries are usually written from FIRST PERSON PERSPECTIVE.

Point of View Practice

Test your point of view identification skills. Identify each phrase as FIRST PERSON or THIRD PERSON POINT OF VIEW by checking the correct box

		First Person POV	Third Person POV
1.	As always, I was ecstatic about visiting the library. I walked over with my umbrella in hand and a big sack of books. I happily returned them and filled my bag with sixty new ones.		
2.	Habat held her breath as she opened the letter. Then she exhaled, and her face lit up as she read the news. She rushed to tell her sister and parents that she was accepted into university.		
3.	The ocean waves threw my boat violently, and I paddled harder to reach the shore. My muscles ached, but I knew I could not stop. It was just me against the storm.		
4.	Mr. Wan loved being a teacher's assistant. He liked how he got to help students learn everyday.		

Conflict

Conflict is the struggle between opposing forces. Below are the most common conflicts you find in stories.

1. *Character vs. Character*
The protagonist has a conflict with another person, animal or creature (like space aliens!).
2. *Character vs. Nature*
The leading character struggles against a force of nature like a storm, earthquake, being lost in a forest, etc.
3. *Character vs. Society*
The protagonist struggles against the ideas, practices, laws or customs of society.
4. *Character vs. Self*
The protagonist struggles with his or her sense of identity, with a decision he or she has made or has to make, physical limitations, etc.



Narrative Element: Conflict - <https://youtu.be/r43Oam4U5so>



Journal #5: Worst Conflict

Directions: Looking at the four different conflicts listed in the course (Character vs. Character, Character vs. Nature, Character vs. Self, and Character vs. Society). Which do you think is the worst to experience? Explain why in detail. Give examples.

Conflict Practice

Test your conflict identification skills. Check the box of the conflict that matches the situation.

	<i>Character versus...</i>	Nature	Self	Character	Society
1.	The bully took the candy from the child.				
2.	The tornado was heading right for Jefferson's home.				
3.	The Canadian government interned Japanese-Canadian families during World War Two.				
4.	The student felt guilty for cheating on the test.				