POINT OF VIEW

Identify the Narrative Point of View (e.g., first person, third persons, and omniscient) in a literary section.

I CAN ANALYZE TEXT TO DETERMINE POINT OF VIEW

By Cheryl Martin, M.Ed.
WHAT'S THE POINT OF POINT OF VIEW

• When we are working with text, point of view means how the author has chosen to present the story.

I'll create this LOL from the third person omniscient point of view, he thought to himself.

TRY TO SEE THINGS FROM MY POINT OF VIEW.
The story can be told as it is experienced by a single character.

As I walked up the hill, I realized that the atmosphere was just too quiet. There was no sound from the robin who was nearly always singing from the top of the maple tree. I thought I saw a shadow move high up on the slope, but when I looked again it was gone. Still, I shuddered as I felt a silent threat pass over me like a cloud over the sun.
THIRD PERSON LIMITED

- The story can be related by an outside observer. (includes the thoughts and perspective of one main character)

- As Joann walked up the hill, she realized that the atmosphere was just too quiet. There was no sound from the robin who she so often heard singing from the top of the maple tree. Joann thought she saw a shadow move high up on the slope, but when she looked again it was gone. Nevertheless, Joann shuddered as she felt a silent threat pass over her. It felt like a cloud creeping over the sun.

Joann wondered why it was so quiet.
Third person omniscient: (all-knowing; can include thoughts and perspective of all characters) an outside observer who has the power to know characters' thoughts and feelings.

As the girl walked up the hill, she realized that the atmosphere was just too quiet. The robin tipped his head back and drew breath to sing, but just as the first note passed his beak he heard the crack of a dead branch far below his perch high in the maple tree. Startled, he looked down, cocking his head to one side and watching with great interest while the man rattled the blades of grass as he tried to hide himself behind the tree. As the man saw her start up the hill, he moved quickly into the shelter of the huge old maple tree. If she saw him now, everything would be ruined. She thought she saw a shadow move high up on the slope, but when she looked again it was gone. The man thought if he could stay hidden until she came within range, she'd have to talk to him. Wouldn't she? The girl shuddered as she felt a silent threat pass over her. It felt like a cloud creeping over the sun.
You have experience with points of view in your own life.

Good readers use life experience to connect their life to the concepts they need to learn.

LETS PRACTICE…..

**What I Know Moe**

Hey, I already know some things about that!

- Use your prior knowledge—what do you already know about a subject?
- Think about times you've read about the topic
Tell your partner about how you got home from school yesterday.

Use first, then, next, last.

• Example- I exited the hallway, down the stairs, Then I walked out of double doors by the playground. As I left I saw the dens club kids in the hallway and I said hello to a boy named Brandon. Next, I walked from the playground to the parking lot and got on the bus. Last I exited the bus and walked home.
Practice
Third Person - Limited

- Example:
  First, Susan left the classroom by walking down the hallway. She saw the Dens club kids in the hallway, and she said hello to a boy named Brandon. Then she walked through the double doors and onto the playground and got on the bus. Finally she got off the bus and walked home.

Your local newspaper is running an article about how kids get home from school. The article would be written from an outside observer's point of view. So, as an outsider tell your partner's story to a new partner and explain how he/she got home yesterday.
Practice
Third Person –Omniscient

Example-
First, Susan left the classroom by walking down the hallway. She saw the Dens club kids in the hallway, and she said hello to a boy named Brandon. Brandon’s heart was all a flutter because Susan said hi to him, but he tried not to show his excitement. He didn’t know if she saw him blush. Susan then walked through the double doors, onto the playground and got on the bus. The bus driver was in a rush because he was late. He told Susan to get seated and to hurry it up. This made Susan feel anxious, but she did as she was told. She thought of Brandon, and how he acted after she said hello. “Hmm...he sure did act funny.” she thought. The driver started the bus with a fuss and started to drive. Susan’s was the last stop of the day. Finally she got off the bus and walked home.

The newspaper article was a hit! You are hired to make a fictional short story about your friends story about leaving school. This time, the narrator of the story (you) has the power to show more than one person's thoughts. As a piece of fiction, you will invent characters, feelings, quotes and actions of two or more characters.
Which of these sentences is written from the first person point of view?

A. You forgot to turn the microwave on!
B. The little girl and her best friend played on the swings.
C. She was not sure if she had remembered her homework.
D. After dinner was over, I went for a jog.
WHAT IS THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE POEM

• A young girl was busy working on her project for school
  But suddenly she had a question.
  Could this be her lucky day?
  Deciding to find out, she
  Entered her backyard and
  Found hundreds of green shamrocks waiting for her.

  a) First Person
  b) Third Person Limited – from the point of view of the girl
  c) Third Person Omniscient - from the point of view of many people
A ballad is a poem that tells a story.

What is the point of view of this ballad?

Third Person Limited
Or
Third Person Omniscient

How do you know?

The reader knows how more than one character in the poem feels.

Whose viewpoints are revealed through the ballad?

Joan
The English
The French
Captain Sir Glasdale
Sir Talbot
Independent Work

• Read the poem “The Octopus”

• Who is the narrator?

What is the viewpoint?

• Using first, then, next and last write a narrative describing when an octopus encounters a diver in the ocean.
The Octopus
by Ogden Nash

Tell me, O Octopus, I begs
Is those things arms, or is they legs?
I marvel at thee octopus;
If I were thou, I’d call me Us.

Who is the narrator?

How would the poem be different if the narrator was a marine biologist, a surfer, or the octopus?
Cooperative Partner Work

• You and your partner will read an excerpt from a classic novel.
• You and your partner will examine the excerpt and decide if it written from the first person, third person limited or third person omniscient point of view.
• You and your partner will give reason for (justify) your answer if it is third person.

12. The Skull of Truth: A Magic Shop Book by Bruce Coville, Gary A. Lippincott
To his astonishment, Charlie found himself standing next to his bicycle, back where he had entered the swamp. That was bizarre and upsetting—but not as bad as the realization that he was still holding the skull. He thought he had dropped it before he raced out the door. He certainly hadn’t intended to steal the thing. He didn’t even really want it!

Narrative Perspective: **Third Person Limited**

If it is third-person, which character’s thoughts are revealed?

Charlie’s thoughts are revealed.
FIRST

Independent work
By myself- (turn into Mrs. Martin)

- Using first, then, next and last write a narrative describing when an octopus encounters a diver in the ocean

THEN

Cooperative Partner Work

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Narrative Perspective: **Third Person Limited**

If it is third-person, which character’s thoughts are revealed? **Charlie’s thoughts are revealed**
Tell me, O Octopus, I begs
Is those things arms, or is they legs?
I marvel at thee octopus;
If I were thou, I’d call me Us.
Using first person point of view, write a story using first, then, next, last from the point of view of an octopus who sees a diver. (I, me, we,)

Using third person limited point of view, write a story using first, then, next and last from the point of view the octopus who sees a diver. (he, it, the octopus)