

Name:

Lesson 16 Part 1: Introduction

Analyzing Point of View

CCLS

RL.7.6: Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the point of view of different characters or narrators in a text.

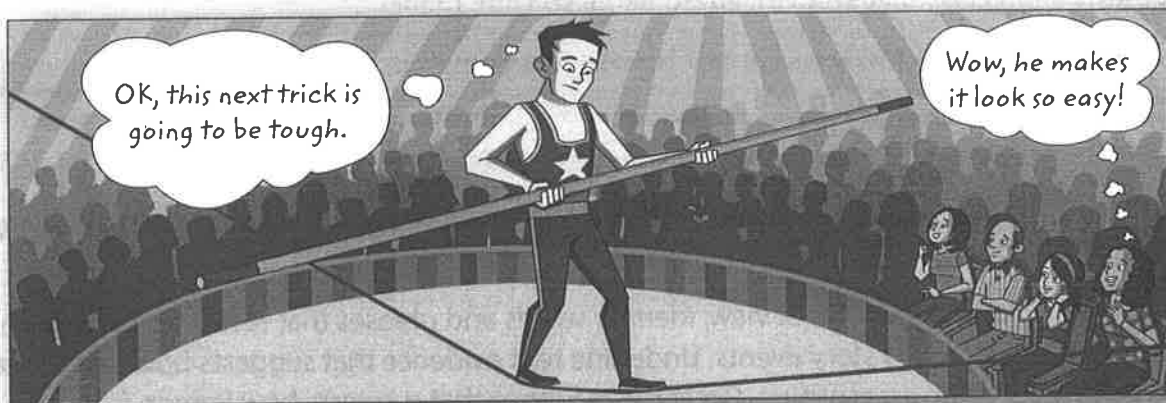
RL.7.6.a: Analyze stories, drama, or poems by authors who represent diverse world cultures.

Theme: *Perspectives*

Roller coasters aren't for everyone. You might love the thrills, but your friend keeps her eyes closed the whole time! Each of you has your own perspective, or **point of view**, about the experience.

Stories contain different points of view, too. Sometimes you'll get the point of view of the narrator, or the voice telling the story. At other times you'll get the point of view of one or more characters. By revealing their words, thoughts, feelings, and actions, the author gives you insight into the characters' attitudes about the events and people around them.

Who are the main characters in the scene below? How would the description of the same event differ if it were told from each character's point of view?



Read the chart below. Note how the evidence shows why a contrast exists between the acrobat's point of view about the situation and the audience member's perspective.

Character	Evidence	Point of View
Acrobat	says next trick will be tough; walking a high tightrope	The routine is very dangerous, and he could fall at any minute.
Audience Member	smiling, eyes wide, says acrobat makes it look easy	The acrobat seems very talented, and he's in no danger.

The characters in the scene are having two different experiences and would tell different versions of the same story. In other words, *how* an event is described is directly affected by *who* is describing it. So by carefully choosing or describing points of view, the author is able to advance the plot and help readers understand the characters' actions and motivations.



Read this story about Ramon and Blanca's trip to an art museum.

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Places of Disinterest *by Rowena Jackson*

Another Inez family Saturday afternoon outing was drawing to a close, and for Blanca and Ramon's parents, the car ride home from the art museum couldn't be over fast enough. Blanca stared stonily out the car window, while Ramon beamed.

"That is the absolute last time you get to pick where we go," Blanca exclaimed and scowled at her older brother. "The entire exhibit was filled with paintings that looked like someone ran around splashing buckets of paint randomly all over the canvas."

"That's called *expressionism*," Ramon eagerly explained, "Each painting is meant to evoke a feeling. What were some of the emotions you experienced in the exhibit?"

"I felt quite frustrated and exhausted," Blanca sighed dramatically, and then she exclaimed, "And I didn't appreciate that security guard being so rude to me!"

"You sat on a priceless metal sculpture! He was just doing his job."

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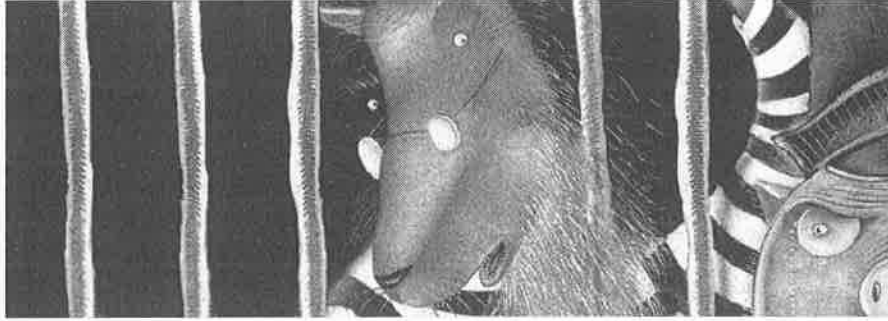
Explore how to answer this question: "How does the author contrast the points of view of the different characters?"

To figure out each character's point of view, identify words and phrases that reveal his or her thoughts, feelings, and attitudes toward story events. Underline text evidence that suggests how Blanca feels about the afternoon at the art museum. Circle the evidence that suggests how Ramon feels about the same experience. Then complete the chart below, and compare the characters' points of view.

Character	Evidence	Point of View
Blanca	stares stonily out window, doesn't want Ramon to pick an activity again, disliked the paintings, sat on a sculpture	
Ramon		enjoyed his time at the museum because he understands and appreciates fine art

Blanca and Ramon have contrasting perspectives about their experience at the museum. How do the characters' interests and feelings affect their points of view?

How can POINT OF VIEW impact a story?



Video #1: *The Three Little Pigs* (Silly Symphony)

1. Is this version of *The Three Little Pigs* told from the point of view of a character in the story or an outside narrator? How do you know?
2. What is the main conflict of this story?

Video #2: *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs* (Story Video)

1. Is this version of *The Three Little Pigs* told from the point of view of a character in the story or an outside narrator? How do you know?
2. What is the main conflict of this story?

Final Reflection:

1. How are the plots different in the two stories? How are the conflicts different?
2. How does the point of view change the reader's perception, or feelings, about the wolf? About the pigs?
3. How can point of view impact a story? Explain using details from these two videos.



Close Reading

How do Blanca’s and Ramon’s points of view differ about the still-life paintings? **Underline** the words and phrases that show the contrast.

Continue reading about the visit to the art museum. Use the Close Reading and the Hint to help you answer the question.

(continued from page 154)

After a few moments, Ramon tried again. “Those still-life pieces were so remarkable. Did you notice how the artists captured the interplay of light and shadow across even such ordinary objects?”

Blanca checked her text messages for the billionth time and muttered angrily, “Sure, I always pay attention to boring stuff like light and shadow when I’m looking at a bowl of fruit.”

“Well, was there anything at the museum that you enjoyed?”

Blanca thought carefully for a moment before flashing her wrist—“I did enjoy the gift shop, because I got this cool watch.”

Hint

How does Ramon react to Blanca’s complaints?

Circle the correct answer.

Based on evidence from the story, which statement best describes Ramon’s point of view about his sister?

- A He thinks Blanca could be a painter if she paid attention to details.
- B He believes she should admit to knowing that the art is valuable.
- C He hopes to convince her that she can appreciate fine art.
- D He’s not sure that Blanca will ever appreciate expressionism.



Show Your Thinking

Citing evidence from the text, describe how the author contrasts Blanca’s point of view from that of her brother.

With a partner, discuss how the contrasting points of view help readers understand the characters’ relationships with one another.