

Point of view

Grade 5 Reading Worksheet

Point of view is the perspective from which a text is written. Texts can be written from three different points of view:

First Person: The narrator talks about themselves.

Clues: "I" or "me" or "my"

Second Person: The narrator speaks directly to the reader.

Clues: "you" or "your"

Third Person: The narrator talks about other people.

Clues: "he" or "she" or "they" or people's names

Part 1: Quick practice

Read each sentence. Underline the clue words and identify the point of view.

1. The dog chased the ball across the yard.

Point of view: _____

2. You step carefully across the icy path.

Point of view: _____

3. I watched the fireworks light up the night sky.

Point of view: _____

4. The students lined up quietly outside the classroom.

Point of view: _____

5. I packed my bag early for the camping trip.

Point of view: _____

6. You can hear the waves crashing along the shore.

Point of view: _____



Part 2: Apply your skills

Read the two passages and underline the clue words. Then answer the questions.

Passage A

Every morning I wake up before the sun because there is always work to do on our farm. Everything is quiet at this hour, except for the soft crackling of the fire in the stove. It's one of my responsibilities to make sure the fire never goes out. This morning, I carefully place pieces of wood onto the embers so it will continue to burn. Our home would be cold without the fire, and we wouldn't have anywhere to cook our meals.



After tending to the fire, I go outside to the well. I fill my bucket with water. It feels heavy in my arms this early in the morning. The walk feels long too, especially when the ground is frozen and cold. I know this chore is important, though, because we need water for drinking, cooking and cleaning. My parents have told me that every member of the family has to work together in order for our family to live well.

As the morning goes on, I help my mother prepare food and then work in the garden behind our house. We grow most of what we eat, so it's important to spend time pulling weeds, planting seeds and checking on the crops. During harvest season, which is when crops are gathered from the fields, this work is even more important. We must gather enough food to last through the long winter months. Sometimes I also help my parents dry or preserve the food so it can last a long time and not spoil.

In the afternoon, I help with other tasks. Sometimes I help mend clothing. Clothes are not easy to replace, so we repair them when they are torn. Other times I gather firewood so that we have enough to last through the night. Sometimes I also help care for the animals. This is my favorite job! By the end of the day, I am always tired. I go to bed happy and proud, though, because I know my hard work helps my family.

Passage B

In Colonial America, every member of the family (including children!) was required to work hard. Many families lived on farms. There were usually very few stores nearby, so people grew or made everything they needed at home. Families often made their own tools, candles and soap, since they could not easily buy these items.

Children in colonial times began their days early in the morning, along with the adults. They often had many chores to do, including tending to the fire, carrying water and helping prepare meals. Fires were especially important because they provided heat and were used for cooking. Without a steady fire, families could become cold and hungry.



Children also helped with tasks around the farm. They planted crops, pulled weeds and helped harvest food when it was ready. Families also worked together to preserve food by drying it or storing it so it could last through the winter. This preparation wasn't always easy, but it was necessary because fresh food wasn't always available. Children also helped gather firewood and care for animals. Some children milked cows, collected eggs or helped feed livestock each day.

Clothing was another responsibility that children helped with. Clothing was difficult to replace, so it had to be repaired often. Both children and adults helped wash clothes and mend torn garments. It wasn't unusual for one piece of clothing to be passed down to younger siblings in the family as they grew up. Clothing was often made from wool or linen, and making it could take many hours of work.

Although life in Colonial America could be difficult, having daily responsibilities taught children important skills. As they helped their families every day, they learned the importance of hard work, as well as how to solve problems and take care of themselves and others.

1. What is the point of view of Passage A?

What words or features helped you determine the point of view?

2. What is the point of view of Passage B?

What words or features helped you determine the point of view?

3. How are the two passages **similar**?

4. How are the two passages **different**?

5. How does each point of view help the reader understand the topic?

Answers

Part 1: Quick practice

1. The dog chased the ball across the yard.
Point of view: Third person
2. You step carefully across the icy path.
Point of view: Second person
3. I watched the fireworks light up the night sky.
Point of view: First person
4. The students lined up quietly outside the classroom.
Point of view: Third person
5. I packed my bag early for the camping trip.
Point of view: First person
6. You can hear the waves crashing along the shore.
Point of view: Second person

Part 2: Apply your skills

Accept answers along the lines of:

1. First person
Passage A uses “I” and “my” and tells a personal experience.
2. Third person
Passage B uses “children,” “families” and “they” and explains general information.
3. Both passages describe daily chores and responsibilities in Colonial America.
4. Passage A follows one child's day, while Passage B explains different types of work and responsibilities that colonial children had.
5. First person helps the reader imagine what daily life was like for one colonial child.
Third person helps the reader learn general information about colonial life for children.