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. I opened the book and began reading my favorite chapter.

   Point of view: _____

2. They watched as the wind pushed the leaves across the playground.

   Point of view: _____

3. You notice the stars shining brightly in the night sky.

   Point of view: _____

4. I carefully built the tower out of blocks.

   Point of view: _____

5. The chef prepared a meal in the busy kitchen.

   Point of view: _____

6. You feel the warm sand between your toes at the beach.

   Point of view: _____

Part 2: Apply your skills

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

Passage A

When you set foot in the desert, you will notice how hot and dry the air is. The sun will be shining brightly above your head, and there will be very few clouds in the sky. You will hardly ever get a break from the sun! Your skin will immediately start to feel warmer. Under your feet, you'll notice that the ground is sandy or rocky. When you look ahead, you will notice that the landscape seems to stretch out as far as you can see in every direction. The desert might seem empty and quiet at first.

As you explore around, you start to realize that there is actually a lot more life than you originally thought! In fact, you start to see some of the different plants that you learned about in science class. You recognize plants like cacti with thick stems, which you know store water. You also see small shrubs with small, waxy leaves. You have a feeling that these leaves are designed this way for a reason, and you wish you remembered why!

If you look carefully, you also might spot animals that have adapted to life in this hot climate. You're more likely to see them at night because the temperatures are cooler and safer. During the day, your best chance of seeing animals is in burrows or under rocks because everything is hiding from the heat. You're likely to see tracks that have been left behind by animals that traveled overnight when it was cooler. There's also a chance you'll see lizards scurry across the sand as they dart from one shady place to the next.

As you spend more time in the desert, you begin to understand why you learned that living there requires many special adaptations. In order to survive, plants and animals must find ways to conserve water and stay cool so they can live in extreme temperatures. While it is certainly a difficult place to live, you also see that it is a unique ecosystem filled with special plants and animals!

Passage B

The desert ecosystem is one of the hottest and driest environments on Earth. During the day, temperatures can rise to extremely high levels, and there is very little rainfall throughout the year. Because of these harsh conditions, plants and animals that live in the desert must develop special adaptations. Without these adaptations, it would be very difficult for living things to survive.

Plants in the desert have developed features that help them conserve water and protect themselves from the sun. For example, cacti store water in their thick stems, allowing them to survive for long periods without rain. Other plants have small, waxy or spiny leaves that reduce water loss and help prevent animals from eating them. These adaptations are necessary because water is scarce and must be used carefully.

Animals that live in the desert have also adapted in different ways. Many desert animals are nocturnal, which means they are active at night when temperatures are cooler. During the day, they stay in burrows or shaded areas to avoid the intense heat. Some animals, such as lizards and snakes, are able to move quickly across hot surfaces, while others conserve energy by remaining still for long periods.

The desert ecosystem may seem empty at first, but it is actually home to many living things that are staying out of the sun! Thanks to their adaptations, both plants and animals are able to survive and even thrive in conditions that would otherwise be too extreme. Scientists continue to study desert ecosystems to better understand how living things adapt to challenging environments.

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. I opened the book and began reading my favorite chapter.
   Point of view: First person

2. They watched as the wind pushed the leaves across the playground.
   Point of view: Third person

3. You notice the stars shining brightly in the night sky.
   Point of view: Second person

4. I carefully built the tower out of blocks.
   Point of view: First person

5. The chef prepared a meal in the busy kitchen.
   Point of view: Third person

6. You feel the warm sand between your toes at the beach.
   Point of view: Second person

Part 2: Apply your skills

Accept answers along the lines of:

1. Second person

   Passage A uses "you" and "your" and speaks directly to the reader.

2. Third person

   Passage B uses "plants," "animals" and "they" and explains information.

3. Both passages describe the desert ecosystem and how living things survive there.

4. Passage A describes what someone might experience while exploring the desert, while Passage B explains the plants, animals and adaptations found in the desert.

5. Second person helps the reader imagine being in the desert. Third person helps the reader learn facts about the desert and how living things survive there.