Garden Views

Notice what the narrator tells and what each character thinks.

ELA.4.R.1.3 "Identify the narrator's point of view and explain the difference between a narrator's point of view and character perspective in a literary text."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that show the narrator's point of view, circle Maya's or Eli's thoughts and feelings, and write M or E beside each circled idea.

Seeds by the Fence

1 On Saturday, Maya and her grandfather visited the empty community garden. Maya carried a packet of sunflower seeds and a small shovel. She had promised to plant flowers near the fence before the neighborhood picnic. Grandfather Eli looked at the dry soil and worried that the seeds would not get enough water. Maya, however, imagined tall yellow blooms waving above the gate.

2 While Maya loosened the dirt, Eli filled two buckets at a nearby spigot. He remembered the summer when his own garden had dried up during a heat wave. Because of that memory, he wanted to save water by planting only a few seeds. Maya watched a robin hop along the path. She thought the bird would enjoy resting among the sunflowers, so she scattered seeds all along the fence.

3 By noon, clouds covered the sky, and rain began to patter on the garden beds. Eli smiled because the new seeds would have a drink. Maya frowned at first. She feared the rain would wash away her careful rows. Then she saw water sink into the loose dirt. Both gardeners hurried home, but each pictured the garden in a different way.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What narrator's point of view is used in the passage? Give one clue from the text.

2. What is Maya's perspective about planting sunflowers by the fence? Use one detail from the passage.

3. What is Eli's perspective about planting the seeds? How does it differ from Maya's perspective?

4. How is the narrator's point of view different from Maya's perspective in paragraph 3?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences about two characters who react differently after finding a lost puppy. Use third-person names or pronouns and include a thought or feeling for each character. Write a fourth sentence that identifies the narrator's point of view and explains how it differs from one character's perspective.

ANSWER KEY

Garden Views

GRADE 4 · ELA.4.R.1.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words that show the narrator's point of view, circle Maya's or Eli's thoughts and feelings, and write M or E beside each circled idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What narrator's point of view is used in the passage? Give one clue from the text.	**The narrator uses third-person point of view. The narrator calls the characters Maya and Eli and uses pronouns such as she and he, not I.**
2	What is Maya's perspective about planting sunflowers by the fence? Use one detail from the passage.	**Maya is hopeful and wants many sunflowers by the fence. She imagines tall blooms and scatters seeds all along the fence.**
3	What is Eli's perspective about planting the seeds? How does it differ from Maya's perspective?	**Eli is cautious because he worries about dry soil and wants to plant only a few seeds. Maya is more hopeful and plants many seeds.**
4	How is the narrator's point of view different from Maya's perspective in paragraph 3?	**The third-person narrator tells what happens and shows both characters' responses. Maya's perspective is her personal worry that rain might wash away her rows, followed by her noticing the water sink into the dirt.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Jordan spotted a puppy under the bus stop bench, and he felt excited to help it. Nia worried that the puppy might be cold, so she took off her scarf. They called the phone number on the puppy's tag. The narrator uses third-person point of view by calling the characters Jordan, Nia, he, and she, while Nia's perspective is that the puppy needs warmth.

Accept third-person point of view when students support it with names or pronouns rather than I. Accept character perspectives that state a character's supported thought, feeling, belief, or reaction and clearly distinguish it from the narrator's viewpoint.