

Boat Story Lenses

Compare first-person and third-person narrators.

5.RL.3.B “Compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are narrated, including the difference between first-and third-person narratives.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each first-person narrator word. Circle each third-person narrator word, then use your marks to compare how the stories are told.

Two Boat Rescues

- ① On Saturday, I carried my paper boat to Willow Creek. I had folded it carefully, and I wanted to see it race beneath the footbridge. When a gust pushed it toward a storm drain, my stomach tightened. I grabbed a long stick and guided the boat back to shore. Mud spotted my shoes, but I laughed as I carried my rescued boat home.
- ② Across town, Jordan watched a paper boat drift along Maple Creek. He had made it for the school fair, but the current swept it toward a drain. Jordan ran beside the water, looking for something to reach it. A fallen branch lay near the path. He used the branch to pull the boat close, then wiped its wet sides with his sleeve. Jordan hurried home, relieved.
- ③ That evening, Ms. Chen displayed two paper boats at the library. Maya's boat had blue stars, while Jordan's had red stripes. Maya told the group that she felt worried before she saved hers. Jordan did not speak about his feelings, but his quick steps and careful wiping showed that he cared about his boat. The listeners imagined both rescues.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1** Which paragraph uses first-person narration? Write two words from that paragraph that prove your answer.

- 2** Which paragraph tells Jordan's rescue in third person? Write two words that show third-person narration.

- 3** Both Maya and Jordan save paper boats. Compare how the narrators share each character's feelings.

- 4** Paragraph 3 is told in which point of view? Give one word from the paragraph and explain how this differs from paragraph 1.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write two three-sentence versions of the same small event. Tell the first version in first person and the second version in third person. Include narrator clues and a feeling or action in each version.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each first-person narrator word. Circle each third-person narrator word, then use your marks to compare how the stories are told. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which paragraph uses first-person narration? Write two words from that paragraph that prove your answer.	Paragraph 1. Answers may include "I" and "my."
2	Which paragraph tells Jordan's rescue in third person? Write two words that show third-person narration.	Paragraph 2. Answers may include "Jordan" and "he."
3	Both Maya and Jordan save paper boats. Compare how the narrators share each character's feelings.	Maya shares her feelings directly by saying "my stomach tightened" and "I laughed." Jordan's third-person narrator says he was relieved and shows his care through his actions.
4	Paragraph 3 is told in which point of view? Give one word from the paragraph and explain how this differs from paragraph 1.	Third person. Words may include "Ms. Chen," "Maya," "Jordan," "she," or "he." The narrator refers to characters by name or pronouns instead of using "I."

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First-person version: I watched my sandwich slide off the picnic table in the wind. I felt disappointed, but I chased the napkin that covered it. I returned with the sandwich and laughed at my grassy knees. Third-person version: Nia watched her sandwich slide off the picnic table in the wind. She felt disappointed, but she chased the napkin that covered it. Nia returned with the sandwich and laughed at her grassy knees.

Accept equivalent evidence for first-person and third-person narration. For the open task, accept varied events if both versions describe the same event, use the correct point of view, and contain three sentences each.