Falcon Viewpoints

Compare narrators and nonfiction details about one city wildlife event.

5.RL.3 "Integration of Concepts Set a purpose for reading by activating prior (experience) and background (content) knowledge. Compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are narrated..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that show who is telling paragraphs 1 and 2. In paragraph 3, circle two facts that connect to details in the stories, so you can compare how each text treats the falcon sighting.

A Falcon Above the City

1. From the library roof, I held my binoculars steady as a peregrine falcon folded its wings and dropped toward a pigeon. My heart thumped when it pulled up safely. I had seen hawks in the country, but this bird made the city seem wild. I wrote in my notebook that I wanted to return at sunset and watch for its mate.

2. In a second fictional account, Maya stood below the same library roof. She spotted the falcon diving toward a pigeon and pointed it out to her brother. The bird rose before reaching the street. Maya decided to visit the library again because she hoped to see the falcon at sunset. Her brother grinned and asked whether the falcon lived nearby.

3. Peregrine falcons often nest on tall buildings, whose ledges can resemble cliff sides. In many cities, people watch them from sidewalks or rooftops. A falcon may dive after a bird in flight, then pull up or catch it in the air. Adults may return to the same nesting area each year. These facts explain why a city sighting can include a fast dive and a nearby mate.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the narrator in paragraph 1 give a different view of the falcon than the narrator in paragraph 2? Use one detail from each paragraph.

2. What event happens in both fictional paragraphs? Give one detail that is different in the two accounts.

3. Which paragraph is informational nonfiction? Give two details that show it gives facts instead of telling a character's experience.

4. How does paragraph 3 connect to paragraph 1, and how is its treatment of the topic different?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two mini accounts of the same falcon sighting, with two sentences in each account. Tell the first account in first person and the second in third person, include one shared event detail, and show one difference in what each narrator can tell.

ANSWER KEY

Falcon Viewpoints

GRADE 5 · 5.RL.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words that show who is telling paragraphs 1 and 2. In paragraph 3, circle two facts that connect to details in the stories, so you can compare how each text treats the falcon sighting. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the narrator in paragraph 1 give a different view of the falcon than the narrator in paragraph 2? Use one detail from each paragraph.	**Paragraph 1 uses first person, so readers learn the narrator's feelings, such as the narrator's heart thumping. Paragraph 2 uses third person, so readers learn about Maya's actions and hopes, such as pointing out the bird to her brother.**
2	What event happens in both fictional paragraphs? Give one detail that is different in the two accounts.	**In both paragraphs, a peregrine falcon dives toward a pigeon and then rises or pulls up. Paragraph 1 includes the narrator's excited feelings, while paragraph 2 includes Maya showing the falcon to her brother.**
3	Which paragraph is informational nonfiction? Give two details that show it gives facts instead of telling a character's experience.	**Paragraph 3 is informational nonfiction. It gives general facts that peregrines nest on tall buildings and may dive after birds in flight.**
4	How does paragraph 3 connect to paragraph 1, and how is its treatment of the topic different?	**Both mention a falcon diving and a possible mate near a city building. Paragraph 1 tells one person's experience and feelings, while paragraph 3 explains general facts about peregrine falcons.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First person: I saw the falcon circle above the courthouse, and I clutched my backpack. I wondered if it would land before the bell rang. Third person: Luis saw the falcon circle above the courthouse, and he clutched his backpack. He hurried inside when the bell rang.

Accept supported comparisons that identify first-person language in paragraph 1 and third-person narration in paragraph 2. For the open task, accept two two-sentence accounts with the same event, correct points of view, and a meaningful difference in the details each narrator provides.