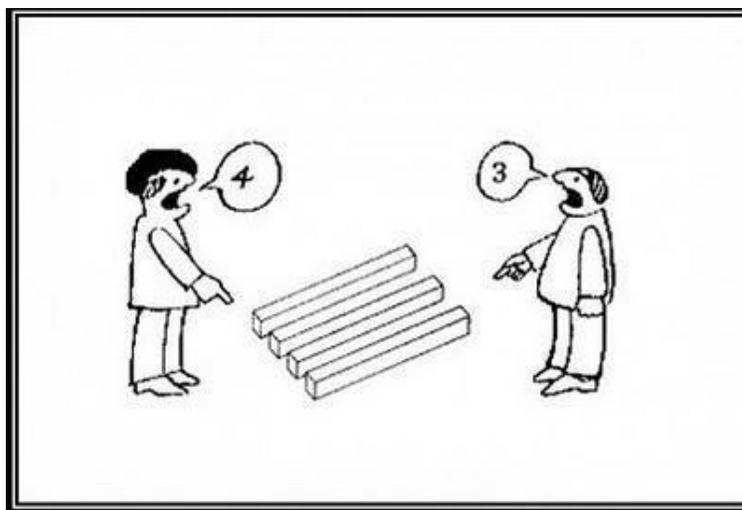


# Getting to the Core

English Language Arts

Grade 7 Unit of Study

**The Power of Point of View**



**STUDENT RESOURCES**

Table of Contents

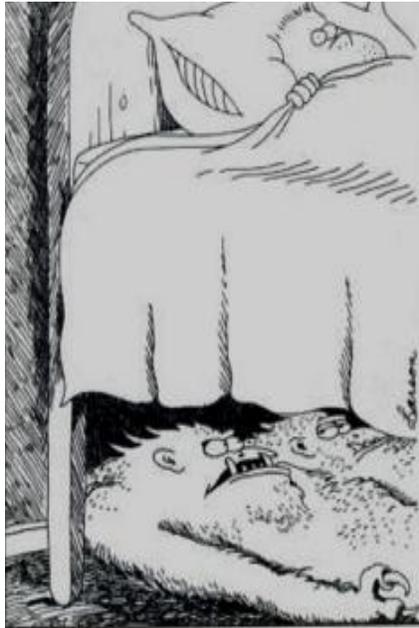
Contents	Pages
<b>Lesson 1</b>	
Resource 1.1 Optical Illusion and Quick-Write	1
Resource 1.2 Non-fiction Vocabulary Notebook	2
Resource 1.3 Far Side Cartoon and Questions	3
Resource 1.4 “The Blind Men and the Elephant” Poem and Wrecking the Text Activity	4-6
Resource 1.5 Academic Conversation Placemat	7
Resource 1.6 Plot Chart	8
Resource 1.7 Narrative Paragraph Checklist	9
Resource 1.8 Optional Point of View Project: “A Walk in Their Shoes”	10-13
<b>Lesson 2</b>	
Resource 2.1 Non-fiction Vocabulary PowerPoint (hardcopy)	14-15
Resource 2.2 Tracking Perspective: “What’s Really in a Name?”	16
Resource 2.3 “Are Young Athletes Putting Themselves at Risk?”	17
Resource 2.4 Compare and Contrast Thinking Map	18
Resource 2.5 Quick-Write: Which argument was more convincing?	19
Resource 2.6 “Should 4-Year-Olds Be Beauty Queens?”	20
Resource 2.7 Additional Pictures for “Beauty Queens”	21-22
Resource 2.8 Text-dependent Questions for “Beauty Queens”	23
Resource 2.9 Instructions and Rubric for Argumentative Presentation	24-25
Resource 2.10 Reflection Prompt	26
<b>Lesson 3</b>	
Resource 3.1 Fiction Vocabulary Notebook	27
Resource 3.2 Viewing with a Focus	28
Resource 3.3 Point of View Pictures	29
Resource 3.4 Fiction Vocabulary PowerPoint (hardcopy)	30
Resource 3.5A Point of View Identification Activity	31
Resource 3.6 “Beauty and the Beast” Text-dependent Questions	32
Resource 3.7 “Yeh-Shen” What if...	33
Resource 3.8 Revising for Point of View	34-37
Resource 3.9 Fairy Tale Times Two	38-42



Vocabulary Notebook: The Power of Point of View -- Non-Fiction

<b>Word</b>	Can define/ use it	Have heard it/ seen it	Don't know	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Application or example in texts</b>
perspective					
point of view					
bias					
subjective					
objective					

THE FAR SIDE by Gary Larson



"I've got it again, Larry...an eerie feeling like there's something on top of the bed."

<p>Describe what you see in the cartoon.</p>	
<p>Whose voice is represented by the caption? What evidence do you have from the text (picture)?</p>	
<p>In this type of situation, who do we normally hear from?</p> <p>What makes this funny?</p>	
<p>If we did hear from that character, what might the caption say instead?</p>	

The Blind Men and the Elephant  
 A Hindoo Fable  
 By John Godfrey Saxe

**I.**

It was six men of Indostan  
 To learning much inclined,  
 Who went to see the Elephant  
 (Though all of them were blind),  
 That each by observation  
 Might satisfy his mind.

**II.**

The *First* approached the Elephant,  
 And happening to fall  
 Against his broad and sturdy side,  
 At once began to bawl:  
 "God bless me!—but the Elephant  
 Is very like a wall!"

**III.**

The *Second*, feeling of the tusk,  
 Cried: "Ho!—what have we here  
 So very round and smooth and sharp?  
 To me 't is mighty clear  
 This wonder of an Elephant  
 Is very like a spear!"

**IV.**

The *Third* approached the animal,  
 And happening to take  
 The squirming trunk within his hands,  
 Thus boldly up and spake:  
 "I see," quoth he, "the Elephant  
 Is very like a snake!"

**V.**

The *Fourth* reached out his eager hand,  
 And felt about the knee.  
 "What most this wondrous beast is like  
 Is mighty plain," quoth he;  
 "'T is clear enough the Elephant  
 Is very like a tree!"

**VI.**

The *Fifth*, who chanced to touch the ear,  
 Said: "E'en the blindest man  
 Can tell what this resembles most;  
 Deny the fact who can,  
 This marvel of an Elephant  
 Is very like a fan!"

**VII.**

The *Sixth* no sooner had begun  
 About the beast to grope,  
 Than, seizing on the swinging tail  
 That fell within his scope,  
 "I see," quoth he, "the Elephant  
 Is very like a rope!"

**VIII.**

And so these men of Indostan  
 Disputed loud and long,  
 Each in his own opinion  
 Exceeding stiff and strong,  
 Though each was partly in the right,  
 And all were in the wrong!

**MORAL**

So, oft in theologic wars  
 The disputants, I ween,  
 Rail on in utter ignorance  
 Of what each other mean,  
 And prate about an Elephant  
 Not one of them has seen!

### Wrecking the Text

Stanza	Paraphrase what the stanza says in your own words.
I	Six blind educated men from India went to "see" an elephant because they were curious about it.
II	
III	
IV	
V	
VI	
VII	
VIII	
Moral	

What conclusions can you draw about the nature of “perspective” from the poem? Support your argument with evidence from the text. (You may continue on the back of this page if needed.)

---

---

---

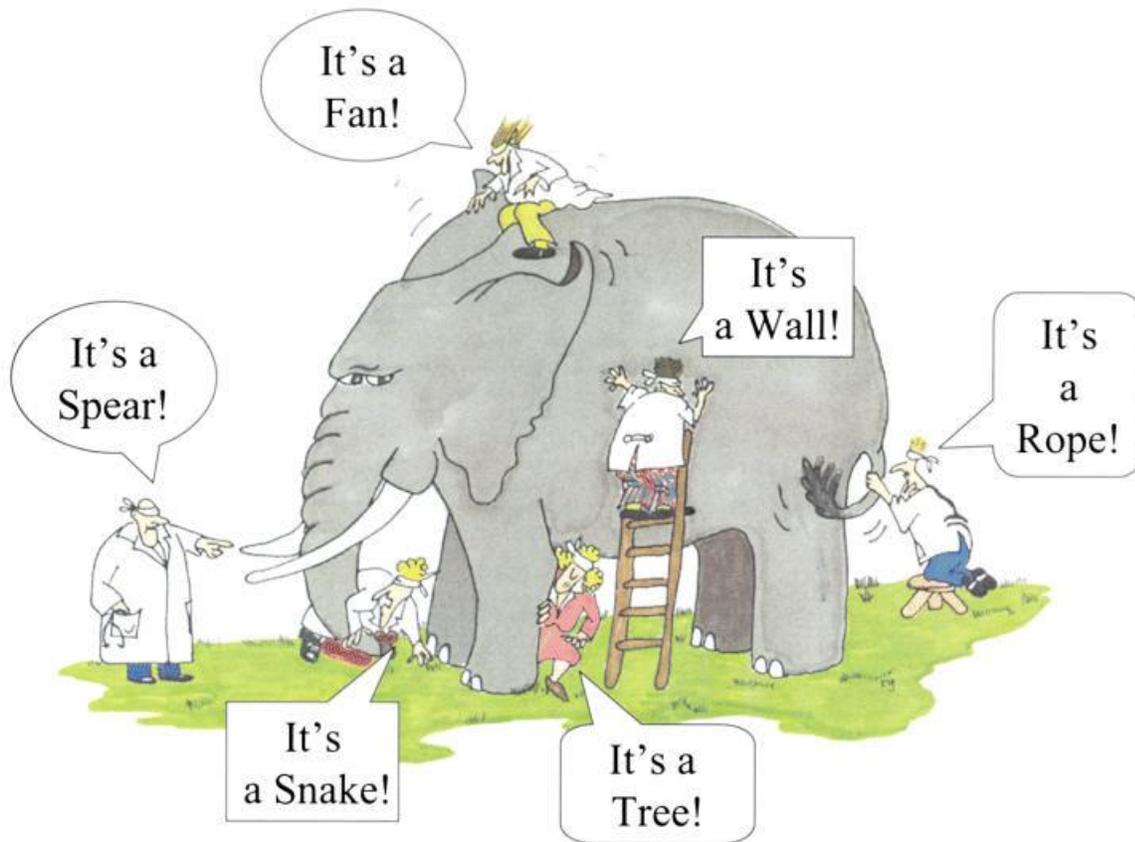
---

---

---

---

---



A visual interpretation of "The Blind Men and the Elephant"

### Academic Conversation Placemat

**ELABORATE**

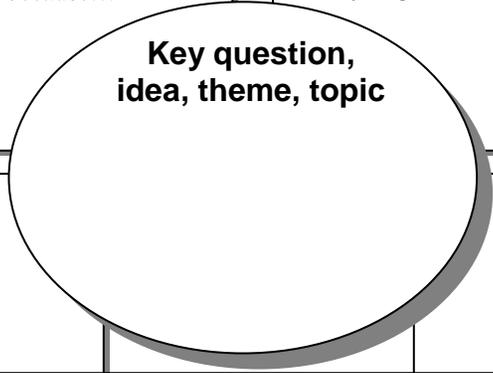
*Prompt starters:*  
 Can you elaborate on...?  
 What does that mean?  
 What do you mean by...?  
 Can you clarify the part about...?  
 Tell me more about...  
 How is that important? How does it support your point that...  
 I understand the part about..., but I want to know...  
 Can you be more specific?

*Response starters:*  
 I think it means...  
 In other words,  
 More specifically, it is ... because...  
 Let's see, an analogy might be...  
 It is important because...

*Prompt starters:*  
 Can you give an example from the text?  
 Where does it say that?  
 What are examples from other texts?  
 What is a real world example? Are there any cases of that in real life?  
 Can you give an example from your life?

**Support Ideas with Examples**

*Response starters:*  
 For example,  
 In the text it said that...  
 Remember in the other story we read that...  
 An example from my life is  
 One case that illustrates this is...



*Prompt starters:*  
 Is that clear?  
 Can I hear what you heard?  
 Does that make sense?  
 Do you know what I mean?  
 What do you think?  
 I'm not sure of all that I said.

**PARAPHRASE**

*Response starters:*  
 Let me see if I heard you right...  
 To paraphrase what you just said, you...  
 In other words, you are saying that...  
 What I understood was...  
 It sounds like you think that...

*Prompt starters:*  
 How can we summarize what we discussed?  
 How can we bring these ideas together?  
 What is our conclusion?

**SYNTHESIZE**

*Response starters:*  
 We can say that...  
 It boils down to...  
 We can agree that...  
 Even though some might think that..., we conclude that...

*Prompt starters:*  
 How can we add to this idea of...  
 What other ideas or examples relate to this idea?  
 What else could support this idea?  
 Do you agree?  
 What contradicts this?  
 What are other points of view?

**Build on/Challenge Another's Idea**

*Response starters:*  
 I would add that...  
 Building on your idea that..., I think...  
 That idea connects to...  
 I see it a different way. On the other hand...  
 Let's stay focused on the idea of... Let's get back to the idea of...  
 That makes me think of...

### Rikki-Tikki-Tavi Plot Chart

Taking the perspective of one of the cobras, complete this plot chart. Remember that you must only use events that you would have witnessed or could have inferred.

Important Events:

Climax:

Resolution:

Starting Situation:

Conflict (What's the problem?):

**Partner Share:**

When the story is told from the perspective (point of view) of \_\_\_\_\_, the reader's perception (impression) of the events changes because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

**Narrative Paragraph Checklist** (Adapted from Narrative Paragraph Checklist found at <http://web.clark.edu/martpe/narrative%20parag.htm>)

*After writing your paragraph, check to see if you can answer “Yes” to all of the items below. If not, revise your paragraph as needed.*

<b>Check to see if:</b>	Yes	No
1. All of your sentences are strong, clear and varied - some long and some short, all interesting.		
2. The order of the story is correct; if you forgot some key information, it will be difficult to tell the story well.		
3. Your story has a beginning, a middle, and an end.		
4. Your transitions help explain the sequence your reader will have to follow.		
5. Your main idea is clear and appears in the beginning.		
6. Your conclusion restates what you said in your main idea.		
7. Your paragraph is free of spelling or grammatical mistakes.		
8. Your reader will easily understand how or why the event is taking place.		
9. You have enough details such as time, location, or anything else needed for your reader to understand the story.		
10. Your retelling of the story from the perspective of the cobra helps the reader see the events from a different point of view.		

**Partner Share**

*Exchange paragraphs with a partner and check to see if all the items above are included. Use the following sentence starters to share your feedback:*

I thought you wrote the part about _____ really well.
You could improve your paragraph by _____.
My perception of the events in the story changed when you told the story from the point of view of _____ because _____.

## "A Walk in Their Shoes"

### An Optional Point of View Project

**Directions:** Look at the pictures of shoes on the following pages and select one for this activity. After you have chosen a shoe, create a character who would wear those shoes. Create details and a past history for the character. Compose a one page profile in first or third person perspective of the shoe owner, telling the story of his/her life. Remember that you are imagining the owner as a living, breathing person, not just a mere list of facts. Your story should have a narrative flow. Be creative and have fun!!

### Student Model

Ella Lynne Myers, an eighteen year old ballerina, had just finished one of the most exciting ballets of her life. For a poor girl from New Jersey, performing in New York City's *Nutcracker Ballet* was the highlight of her life so far.

Ella, a slender and graceful teenager, had spent her whole life attending ballet school since the age of seven. Waking up early every day was something she had to get used to but that she had finally come to accept. She was the oldest of two children, and lived with a single mother whose husband ran out on the family when Ella was two years old, leaving the girls without any financial support. But it wasn't long before Ella found what she was destined to do for the rest of her life.

Despite the great odds against her and her family, Ella stumbled upon ballet one day after watching the graceful ballerinas glide along the studio across the street from her New Jersey apartment. Every day after the bus dropped her off at the corner street near the studio, Ella dreamed big dreams of becoming a star ballerina for the New York Ballet Company. She'd once seen how beautiful and graceful they were on TV, and they became her obsession. Every day, she'd bug her mother to let her enroll in ballet classes, even though she knew the family couldn't afford it. But it turned out that money wasn't an obstacle; the girl's grandmother had set aside some money for her which she was able to use for enrolling in ballet classes.

Ella hardly knew what she was in for that first day. By the end of the first year, however, she showed amazing talent and caught the eye of her instructors. By the time Ella turned sixteen, she was accepted into Juilliard School on a scholarship where she was trained by the greatest ballerinas in the world. She was getting herself ready for the show of her life, which would launch her into a new world of opportunity. Though she'd struggled for ten years with blistered toes, bruises, torn muscles, and exhausting rehearsals, Ella Myers finally saw her name in gleaming lights outside New York's Broadway Theatre and became what she had always dreamed she could be.



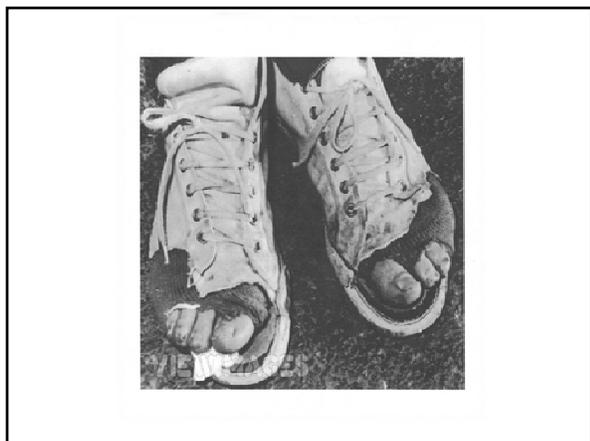
*Use this page to plan your writing.*

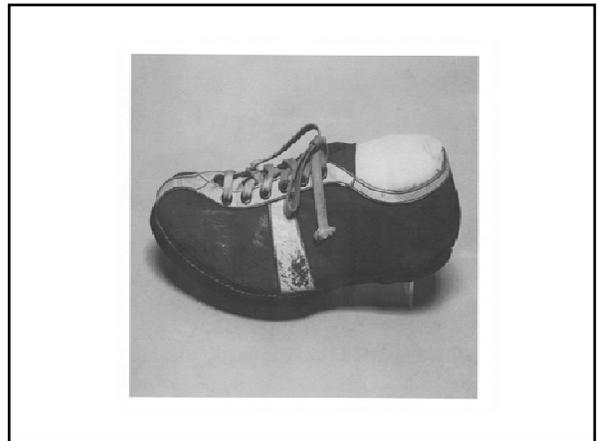
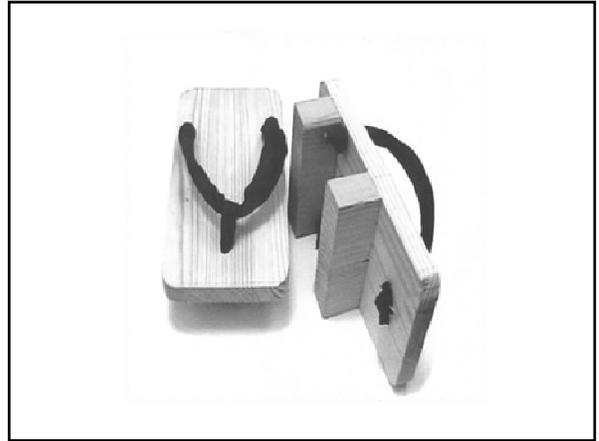
ELA Grade 7 *The Power of Point of View*, Lesson 1

Resource 1.8

## A Walk in Their Shoes

Optional Point of View Project





## Grade 7 The Power of Point of View

### Vocabulary

ELA Grade 7 *The Power of Point of View*, Lesson 2 Resource 2.1

## Vocabulary

- point of view
- bias
- subjective
- objective

## Point of view

- A way that someone looks at or thinks about something.



**When you work with other people, it is a good idea to try to see things from your teammates' *point of view*.**



## Bias

- A leaning in favor of or against a person or issue



**A good teacher will grade students fairly, with *no bias*.**



## Subjective

- Allowing personal beliefs, opinions, and attitudes to influence writing or interpretation





## Objective

- Real, factual, without bias



**“Lady Justice” is blind and weighs evidence without using her personal opinions.**

A closer look at...

### Objective vs. Subjective

#### Objective

- gives information without judgment or evaluation
- usually relies heavily on facts
- tells actual events that occurred, without stating more than can be inferred

#### Subjective

- includes personal view or opinion
- may just describe something from the author's point of view
- may include facts but will probably exclude some facts that do not support opinion

### Tracking Perspective: "What's Really In a Name?"

Pages 233-234

The writer doesn't understand why Patsy changed her name.

What are 3 ways that the writer explains why some people change their names?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What is the writer's main concern about changing names?

Explain the following quote: "Know from whence you came. If you know from whence you came, there are absolutely no limitations to where you can go."

What is the writer's perspective on changing names? How do you know?

## "Are Young Athletes Putting Themselves at Risk?"

Injuries and burnout are on the rise among young people in competitive sports

### YES

A lot of kids and adults think that youth sports in the U.S. have become too intense. In 2006, the Minnesota Youth Soccer Association polled young players about behavior they had observed at sports games. More than a third said that they had been yelled at or teased by a fan; 15 percent said their parents got angry when they played poorly. In a similar poll by *Sports Illustrated for Kids* in 2001, 74 percent of kids said that they had witnessed out-of-control adults at their games.

This sort of behavior takes an emotional toll. One recent study reported that 70 percent of young athletes drop out of their sports by age 13. Many of those kids told researchers that sports weren't much fun.

There are also physical risks. Half of all sports injuries among kids each year are caused by simple overuse, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. Stress fractures, ruptured ligaments, and growth-plate\* injuries can cause lifelong problems. They're all avoidable with rest and moderation.

I know more than I'd like to about such injuries. When my son was 18, he ruptured an elbow ligament while pitching for his high school baseball team. At the time, he was playing for three different baseball teams in three different seasons. I wish I'd realized then how excessive that was.

- Mark Hyman  
Sports Journalist and Author

\* Growth plates are areas of growing tissue at the ends of children's leg and arm bones. They are the weakest part of a young person's skeleton.

### NO

Those who argue that youth sports are too intense point mostly to two factors--the amount of time that they require and the pressure they place on young athletes. These are the very qualities, however that make sports so valuable.

Youth sports today indeed require a big investment of time, money, and energy. But the physical and emotional benefits that come from playing sports are worth it.

Young athletes who spend countless hours training learn the value of discipline and commitment. There is simply no way other than tireless repetition to master the skills necessary to succeed in competitive athletics. When an athlete performs well as a result of this kind of training, he or she develops genuine self-confidence.

With parents shouting from the sidelines and college scouts watching, high-level competitions are packed with pressure. But when managed well, this pressure can bring out the best in young athletes.

To successfully compete in this environment, young athletes must develop mechanisms for blocking out distractions and concentrating only on the details relevant to performance. Instead of being held back by the pressure, they learn to thrive under it.

In the soccer club I work for, I've seen countless kids achieve their potential as a result of all their hard work. It's the intensity that makes youth sports so valuable.

-Nathan Pitcock  
Chicago Magic Soccer Club

*Junior Scholastic* April 18, 2011

"Are Young Athletes Putting Themselves at Risk?"  
Thinking Map to Compare and Contrast the Ideas in the Article

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for a thinking map to compare and contrast ideas from the article.



## Should 4-Year-Olds Be Beauty Queens?

Millions of young children compete in pageants across America. Do these contests go too far?

By Justin O'Neill     *Scholastic Scope*     December 12, 2011

Four-year-old Karley stands in her family's kitchen, dressed in a bikini. She screams in terror as her mom approaches with a spray can. There is no escape for Karley. The dreaded moment has arrived.

The instant the cold mist hits her bare shoulders, Karley squirms, cries out, and stomps her feet. She shakes like she has been electrocuted.

"Look at your white legs!" Karley's mom scolds, while covering her daughter head to toe with fake tanner.

Welcome to the strange world of child beauty pageants.

### **In the Name of Beauty**

Some 3 million kids -- most of them girls -- between the ages of 6 months and 16 years compete in American pageants each year. They face off locally and nationally in categories such as swimsuits, talent, evening wear, and themed costumes. This is a world where toddlers sport fake fingernails, a mother feeds her daughter 10 Pixy Stix as a pre-pageant energy boost, and parents routinely drop five grand on a child's pageant outfit.

You can see it all on TLC's controversial reality show *Toddlers & Tiaras*. Young contestants like Karley endure a lot in the name of "beauty": eyebrow waxes, wigs, heavy makeup, manicures, and partial dentures called "flippers" that fill in gaps left by missing front teeth. This can't possibly be good for kids, can it? Pageant fans say it's harmless fun. They say that pageants can even benefit children by building their confidence and public-speaking skills. Plus, pageant winners earn college scholarships, cash -- and those cherished sparkly tiaras, of course.

Others think that child beauty contests are downright ugly. For one thing, pageants are costly. Besides buying a closet full of pricey dresses, families spend fortunes on entry fees, travel, hotel rooms, makeup, and coaches.

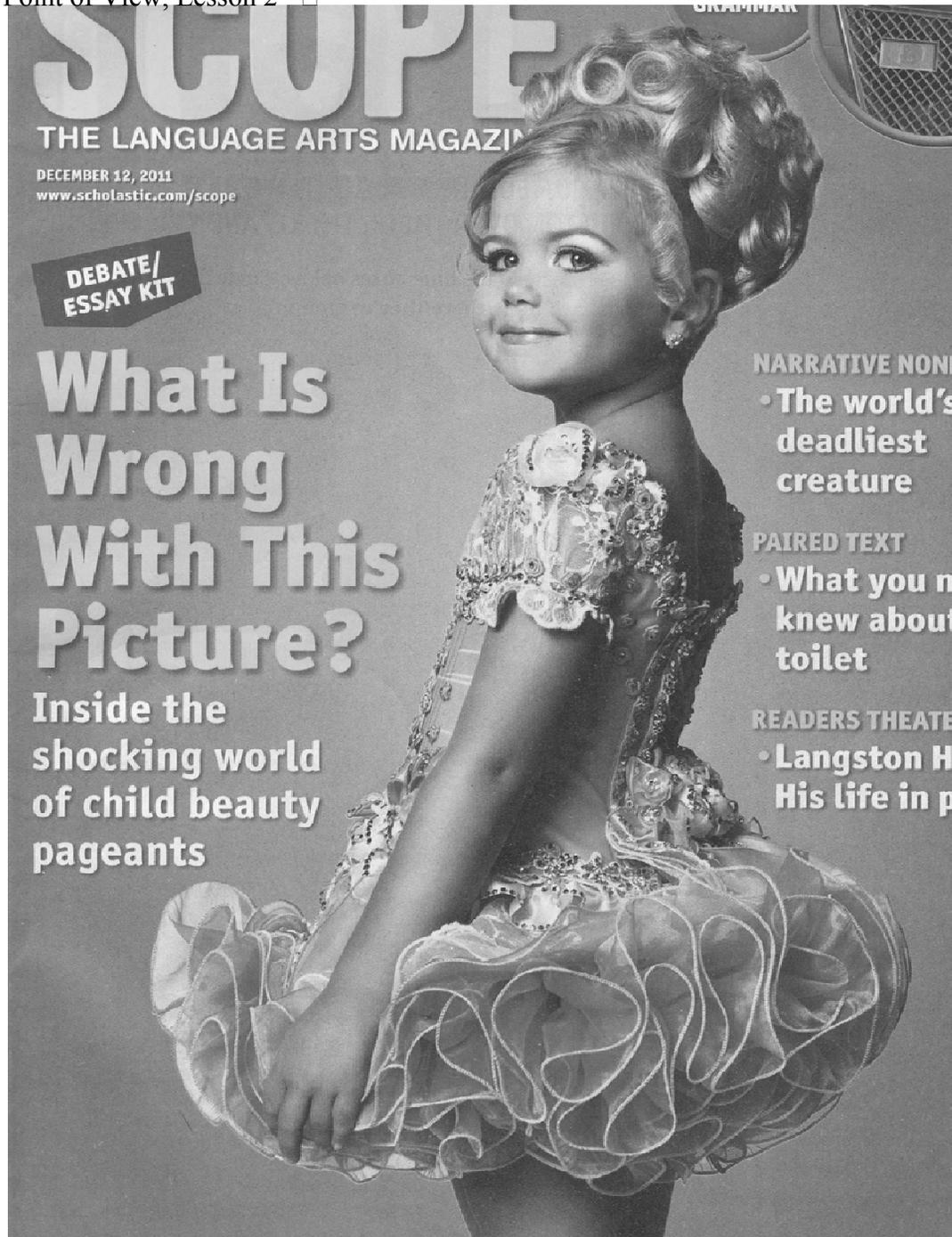
### **Damaging Message?**

Perhaps more seriously, some believe that beauty pageants send the damaging message that appearance is the most important thing about a person. Critics also worry that instead of celebrating individuality, pageants encourage girls to change their looks to fit narrow, invented standards of beauty. There is a concern as well over the way contestants imitate the fashions and behaviors of adult celebrities, strutting across the stage in short skirts and revealing dresses. Is it appropriate for children to dress and act in such a mature way?

Despite the opposition, pageant parents insist that competing in beauty contests is no different from playing a sport, which also requires time and money and puts intense pressure on young competitors. Like young athletes, little beauty queens learn discipline, feel great pride in their accomplishments, and form lasting friendships.

Yet where but on *Toddlers & Tiaras* can you watch a mother convince her 8-year-old daughter to have her eyelashes dyed? For some, this kind of thing is cute fun. It's enough to make others want to scream.

Just like Karley.





A 6-year-old is transformed into a beauty queen.

toddlers sport fake fingernails, a mother feeds her daughter 10 Pixy Stix as a prepageant energy boost,

and parents routinely grand on a child's pag  
You can see it all on controversial reality s  
& *Tiaras*. Young conte  
Karley endure a lot in  
"beauty": eyebrow  
heavy makeup  
and partial d  
"flippers" th  
left by missi  
This can't  
good for kids,  
Pageant fa  
harmless l  
that page  
benefit  
by b  
co  
a  
:  
w  
ea  
sch  
cash—  
cherishe  
tiaras, of course.  
Others think child

ER 12, 2011

## "Should 4-Year-Olds Be Beauty Queens?"

Text-dependent Questions

1. Was the article more positive or negative toward child beauty pageants? Support your answer with textual evidence.

---

---

2. Is the article subjective or objective? How do you know?

---

---

3. What is the author's opinion on child beauty pageants? How do you know that that is his opinion?

---

---

---

---

4. What evidence could the author have included that would have made the article more balanced?

---

---

---

---

## **Argumentative Presentation**

You will be presenting an argument to the class. You will select a topic and decide on the claim that you would like to make. You will research that topic and compile evidence that supports your claim. After your presentation is written, you will deliver it as a speech.

### Possible Topics:

Should schools require students to wear a uniform?

Should schools be allowed to sell "junk" food (e.g., soda, fried chips)?

Should girls and boys be taught in same gender classrooms?

How could your school or community be improved? (Choose only one way.)

Should cell phones be banned from schools?

To make a good presentation:

- State your claim (including your topic!) clearly
- Have sufficient, relevant information that supports your claim.
- Close your speech powerfully. (Make sure the audience knows your opinion and perhaps what they should do about it - a “call to action”.)
- Do not read your speech.
- Make eye contact with the audience.
- Speak at a natural pace and a volume that can be heard by all students.
- Pronounce your words clearly.

Use the space below to brainstorm ideas. Refer to the rubric on the next page to guide your planning.

---

Rubric:

<b>4 Points</b>	<b>3 Points</b>	<b>2 Points</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
Topic and claim are very clearly stated.	Topic and claim are adequately stated.	Topic and claim are somewhat clearly stated.	Topic and/or claim are not clearly stated.
Claim is fully supported with sufficient relevant information.	Claim is adequately supported with relevant information.	Claim is somewhat supported with relevant information.	Claim is not supported by relevant information.
Conclusion powerfully states the speaker's opinion and may include a call to action.	Conclusion adequately states the speaker's opinion.	Conclusion somewhat states the speaker's opinion.	Conclusion does not state the speaker's opinion.
Speaker consistently maintains eye contact, natural pace, appropriate volume, and pronunciation.	Speaker adequately maintains eye contact, natural pace, appropriate volume, and pronunciation.	Speaker occasionally maintains eye contact, natural pace, appropriate volume, and pronunciation.	Speaker does not maintain eye contact, natural pace, appropriate volume, or pronunciation.



Vocabulary Notebook: The Power of Point of View -- Fiction

<b>Word</b>	Can define/ use it	Have heard it/ seen it	Don't know	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Application or example in texts</b>
point of view					
omniscient					
first-person					
third-person limited					

**Viewing with a Focus**

For each of the three pictures you will see, answer all three questions.

	Picture 1	Picture 2	Picture 3
Describe what you can see in this picture.			
How involved in the action do you feel?			
What information might you be missing out on outside of the picture?			

Once you have viewed all three pictures, answer the following questions:

From each picture’s point of view, what would you see and notice? What would you NOT see and notice? What are the advantages/disadvantages of each perspective?

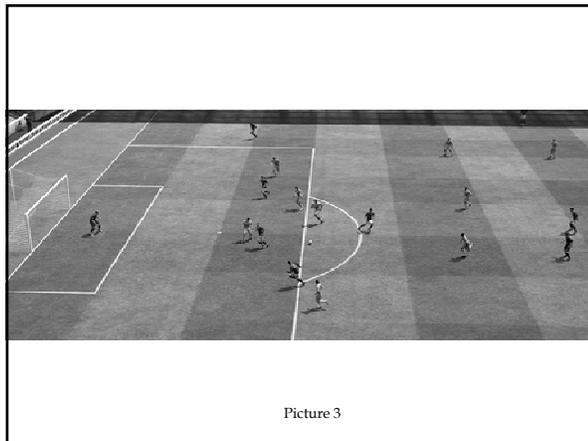
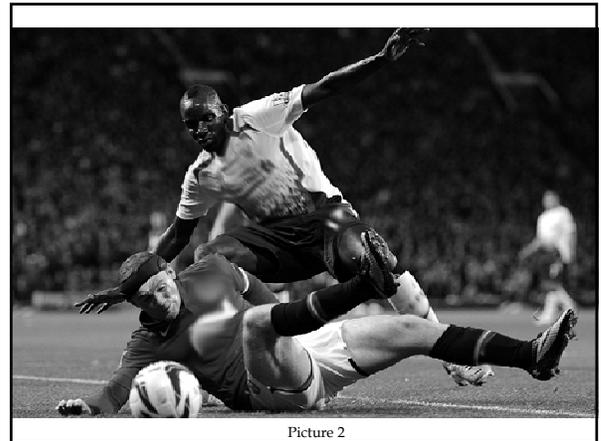
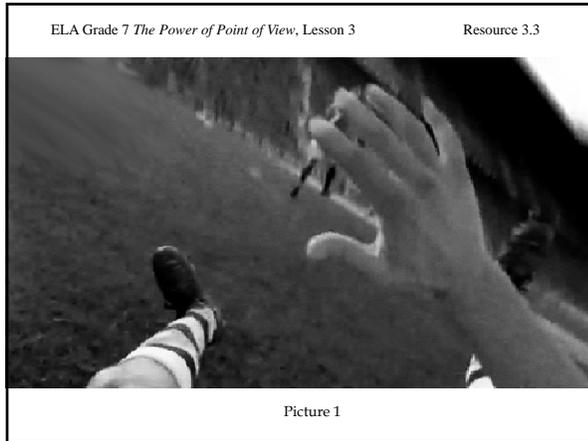
---



---



---



ELA Grade 7 The Power of Point of View, Lesson 3 Resource 3.4

**GRADE 7  
THE POWER OF  
POINT OF VIEW**

Vocabulary -- Fiction

**Vocabulary**

- point of view
- first-person
- third-person, limited
- omniscient

**Point of View**

□ The vantage point from which a story is told



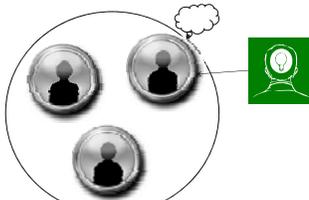
**First-Person**

- The narrator is a character in the story.
- The narrator tells the story through only his/her perspective.



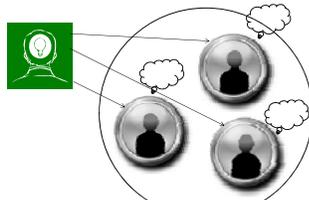
**Third-Person, Limited**

- The narrator is not a character in the story.
- The narrator tells the story through the thoughts and feelings of just one character.



**Omniscient Point of View**

- The narrator is not a character in the story.
- The narrator tells the story through the most personal thoughts and feelings of all the characters.



### Point of View Identification Activity

**Directions:** Read each of the passages below. Identify its point of view and explain how you know you're right. Choose from first-person, third-person limited, or omniscient point of view.

Passage #1:

"As I walked by the corner of my room, where my computer table was set up, I pressed the on button, slid a diskette into the floppy drive, then went to brush my teeth. By the time I got back, the computer's screen was glowing greenly, displaying the message: Good morning, Kevin."

1. Point of View: \_\_\_\_\_

2. How do you know?: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Passage #2:

"The princess bent down to kiss the slimy toad; she was once told that if she kissed a toad by the side of a pond, the toad would magically turn into a handsome prince. She thought and wished to herself, 'If only, if only,' but when she went to kneel down, the toad was gone."

1. Point of View: \_\_\_\_\_

2. How do you know?: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Passage #3:

"The young maiden's loveliness, her hair solid black and shining in the sun, made her seem such a lovely being. The king suddenly knew without a doubt that he was to marry her. The entire town would throw them a grand wedding and the two would live happily ever after."

1. Point of View: \_\_\_\_\_

2. How do you know?: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Passage #4:

"There was so much to learn and understand when it came to being a dragonrider that sometimes, Keevan was overwhelmed. How would he ever be able to remember everything he ought to know at the right moment?"

1. Point of View: \_\_\_\_\_

2. How do you know?: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**"Beauty and the Beast"**  
Text-dependent Questions

	Version 1	Version 2
Is the narrator a character in the story?		
If the narrator is a character, what pronouns does the narrator use to describe himself or herself?		
What does the narrator know about other characters' thoughts and feelings?		
From which point of view is the story told? (omniscient, first-person, and third-person)		
What overall effect did the choice of narrator have on the story? Use evidence from the stories to support your conclusion.		

## "Yeh-Shen" What if...

If the following character became the narrator, what other details, thoughts, or feelings might the reader learn about?

If Yeh-Shen narrated the story

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

If the following character became the narrator, what might be the story's theme?

If Yeh-Shen narrated the story, the theme might be

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

If the stepmother narrated the story

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

If the stepmother narrated the story, the theme might be

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

If the king narrated the story

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

If the king narrated the story, the theme might be

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Revising for Point of View

### "Yeh-Shen"

**Directions:** You will **choose one** of the short passages below and revise it so that it is being told from a different point of view. Since "Yeh-Shen" is told with an omniscient narrator, you may choose first-person or third-person limited for your version. Use the lined pages attached for your writing.

#### **Passage 1: The Killing of Yeh-Shen's Fish** (page 252)

Somehow the stepmother heard of this. She was terribly angry to discover that Yeh-Shen had kept a secret from her. She hurried down to the pond, but she was unable to see the fish, for Yeh-Shen's pet wisely hid itself. The stepmother, however, was a crafty woman, and she soon thought of a plan. She walked home and called out, "Yeh-Shen, go and collect some firewood. But wait! The neighbors might see you. Leave your filthy coat here!" The minute the girl was out of sight, her stepmother slipped on the coat herself and went down again to the pond. This time the big fish saw Yeh-Shen's familiar jacket and heaved itself onto the bank, expecting to be fed. But the stepmother, having hidden a dagger in her sleeve, stabbed the fish, wrapped it in her garments, and took it home to cook for dinner.

When Yeh-Shen came to the pond that evening, she found her pet had disappeared. Overcome with grief, the girl collapsed on the ground and dropped her tears into the still waters of the pond.

#### **Passage 2: The Feast** (pages 253-254)

That day Yeh-Shen turned many a head as she appeared at the feast. All around her people whispered, "Look at that beautiful girl! Who can she be?"

But above this, Stepsister was heard to say, "Mother, does she not resemble our Yeh-Shen?"

Upon hearing this, Yeh-Shen jumped up and ran off before her stepsister could look closely at her. She raced down the mountainside, and in doing so, she lost one of her golden slippers. No sooner had the shoe fallen from her foot than all her fine clothes turned back to rags. Only one thing remained—a tiny golden shoe. Yeh-Shen hurried to the bones of her fish and returned the slipper, promising to find its mate. But now the bones were silent. Sadly Yeh-Shen realized that she had lost her only friend. She hid the little shoe in her bedstraw and went outside to cry. Leaning against a fruit tree, she sobbed and sobbed until she fell asleep.

The stepmother left the gathering to check on Yeh-Shen, but when she returned home, she found the girl sound asleep, with her arms wrapped around a fruit tree. So, thinking no more of her, the stepmother rejoined the party. Meantime, a villager had found the shoe. Recognizing its worth, he sold it to a merchant, who presented it in turn to the king of the island kingdom of T'o Han.

**Passage 3: Yeh-Shen Retrieving Her Slipper** (pages 254-255)

It wasn't until the blackest part of night, while the moon hid behind a cloud, that Yeh-Shen dared to show her face at the pavilion, and even then she tiptoed timidly across the wide floor. Sinking down to her knees, the girl in rags examined the tiny shoe. Only when she was sure that this was the missing mate to her own golden slipper did she dare pick it up. At last she could return both little shoes to the fish bones. Surely then her beloved spirit would speak to her again.

Now the king's first thought, on seeing Yeh-Shen take the precious slipper, was to throw the girl into prison as a thief. But when she turned to leave, he caught a glimpse of her face. At once the king was struck by the sweet harmony of her features, which seemed so out of keeping with the rags she wore. It was then that he took a closer look and noticed that she walked upon the tiniest feet he had ever seen.

With a wave of his hand, the king signaled that this tattered creature was to be allowed to depart with the golden slipper. Quietly, the king's men slipped off and followed her home.

All this time, Yeh-Shen was unaware of the excitement she had caused. She had made her way home and was about to hide both sandals in her bedding when there was a pounding at the door. Yeh-Shen went to see who it was—and found a king at her doorstep. She was very frightened at first, but the king spoke to her in a kind voice and asked her to try the golden slippers on her feet. The maiden did as she was told, and as she stood in her golden shoes, her rags were transformed once more into the feathered cloak and beautiful azure gown.

**Use this space to plan your revision.**

Which passage will you revise? \_\_\_\_\_

From whose perspective will you write? \_\_\_\_\_

What point of view will you use? (First-person or third-person limited)

Think about how you will change the way the story is told based on the character's perspective, and which pronouns you will use depending on the point of view used.





## Fairy Tale Times Two

**Directions:** Use the space below to brainstorm as many fairy tales that you can remember well.

---

You will choose a fairy tale that you are very familiar with and tell it from two points of view and two different characters. (For example, the "Beauty and the Beast" versions were told as omniscient and first-person from the Beast.)

**Example of "Beauty and the Beast" from the omniscient point of view:**

"Long ago there lived a merchant with three lovely daughters..."

**Example of "Beauty and the Beast" from the first-person point of view:**

"I was glad when I turned into a beast..."







