Lesson 17 Point of View



Knowing that characters in a story can have different points of view will help you understand how they think and feel about what happens.

Read Each character, or person in a story, has a point of view. A point of view is how a character thinks or feels about other story characters or events.

You can often figure out a character's point of view by looking closely at the **dialogue**, or what is said. You can also get clues from how the character acts. When you read a story out loud, you can change your voice to show different characters' points of view.

Look at the picture below. What is each character's point of view about the pet lizard?



Think Look again at the cartoon. Finish the chart to show each character's point of view. Also write details that helped you figure out the point of view.

Character	Point of View	Details
Girl holding lizard	likes the lizard	has lizard in hands is smiling
Girl with hat		leans toward the lizard
Girl in chair		

Talk Read the cartoon aloud. Change your voice to show the characters' different points of view.

- **Academic Talk**

Use these words and phrase to talk about the text.

- point of view
- dialogue
- character

Stage Fright by Wendy Blake

Setting: Amy's house, after school. Amy and her friend Pete are talking about the play their class is putting on the next day.

- Amy: Can you believe that tomorrow afternoon we'll be on stage in front of the entire school? It's going to be so much fun!
- 2 **PETE:** I wish there would be a snowstorm tonight. Then maybe we wouldn't have school tomorrow. Too bad it's spring and not winter.
- AMY: Oh, Pete! There's nothing to worry about. We've been practicing for weeks.
- 4 **PETE:** But what if I forget my lines? I don't think I can do this.
- You won't forget your lines, silly. We just went through them ten minutes ago, and you were great.
- 6 **PETE:** (*frowning*) But it's different when you're on stage and everyone is staring at you.
- 7 Amy: Just think about the fun part of acting! You know, the part where you get to pretend you're someone else.
- 8 **PETE:** (looks down and shakes his head) I wish I really were someone else so I wouldn't have to do this tomorrow.

Close Reader Habits

Underline sentences in the dialogue that tell you how each character feels about being in the play.

Explore

How are Amy's and Pete's points of view different?



Think

Finish the chart to show each character's point of view. Put two or three details in the last column.

I'm going to reread the lines I underlined to help me figure out each character's point of view.

Character	Point of View	Details
Amy		
Pete		

Talk

Take turns reading the play out loud with your partner. How does your voice change to show each character's point of view? Show what you mean.



Write

Short Response Why does Pete feel the way he does about the play? Use details from the text in your answer. Write your answer in the space on page 276.

HINT Look for details in the text that show how Pete is feeling.



- Skip and Fliss were two happy dolphins. They spent their days playing in the ocean.
- One day, Fliss spotted a bright orange ring floating on the water. She was curious! Fliss slipped her nose through the ring and jumped up in the air.
- "Hey, look at me!" Fliss shouted to Skip. "I've got a nose ring!"
- 4 "Mom wouldn't like that," Skip warned. "It could be dangerous."
- But Fliss was having too much fun. "Don't worry so much, Skip!" she laughed.
- Skip shook his nose and said, "I'd rather be careful than get into trouble."
- The next day, Skip and Fliss were playing when Fliss saw something waving in the water. Of course, she swam right over to it. But the pretty waving thing was a fishing net! When Fliss swam too close to it, she got her head caught in the ropes. "Help! Help!" she cried out.
- Skip quickly swam to her and started pulling hard on the net.

Finally, with one big pull, Fliss wriggled free of the net.

"Never again will I put my nose where it doesn't belong!" Fliss cried.

Fliss still had fun in the sea, but now she stayed away from strange stuff!

Close Reader Habits

What is each character's point of view? **Underline** details that help you figure that out.

Think

1 This question has two parts. Answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

Part A

What is Fliss's point of view at the beginning of the story?

- **A** She likes to have fun and not worry too much.
- **B** She likes to have fun, but she is careful, too.
- **C** She would rather be safe than explore new things.
- **D** She worries about what her mother thinks.

Part B

Which line from the story **best** supports your answer in Part A?

- A "Skip and Fliss were two happy dolphins."
- **B** "'Don't worry so much, Skip!' she laughed."
- "Never again will I put my nose where it doesn't belong!"
 Fliss cried."
- P "Fliss still had fun in the sea, but now she stayed away from strange stuff!"

Talk

What is Skip's point of view about exploring strange things? How do you know?



Short Response How does Fliss's point of view change from the beginning to the end of the story? Why does it change? Use details from the story in your answer. Write your answer in the space on page 277.



Sometimes a character's point of view can change.
See if that happens in this story.

HINT What happens to Fliss when she goes over to the net?





Write Use the space below to write your answer to the question on page 273.

Stage Fright

Short Response Why does Pete feel the way he does about the play? Use details from the text in your answer.

HINT Look for details in the text that show how Pete is feeling.



Don't forget to check your writing.



Write Use the space below to write your answer to the question on page 275.



3	Short Response How does Fliss's point of view change
	from the beginning to the end of the story? Why does it
	change? Use details from the story in your answer.

happens to Fliss when she goes over to the net?

Check Your Writing	g
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- ☐ Did you read the question carefully?
- ☐ Can you say the question in your own words?
- ☐ Did you use proof from the text in your answer?
- ☐ Are your ideas in a good, clear order?
- ☐ Did you answer in full sentences?
- ☐ Did you check your spelling, capital letters, and periods?



WORDS TO KNOW

As you read, look inside, around, and beyond these words to figure out what they mean.

- harvest
- settled
- jingling
- flicked



An Indian folktale retold by Reena I. Puri, Highlights

Once upon a time a crow and a squirrel owned a field. They agreed to work the field together.

One day the squirrel called out to the crow.

"Come, Brother Crow. It's time to plow the field."

The crow was lazy. He stretched his left wing and his left leg, then said:

"Sister dear, do go ahead.

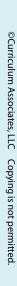
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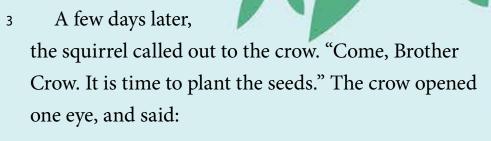
I'll eat this piece of buttered bread

And be with you by noon."

The squirrel plowed the field all day. Meanwhile, the crow enjoyed the cool breeze that blew through the tree.

©





"Sister dear, do go ahead.

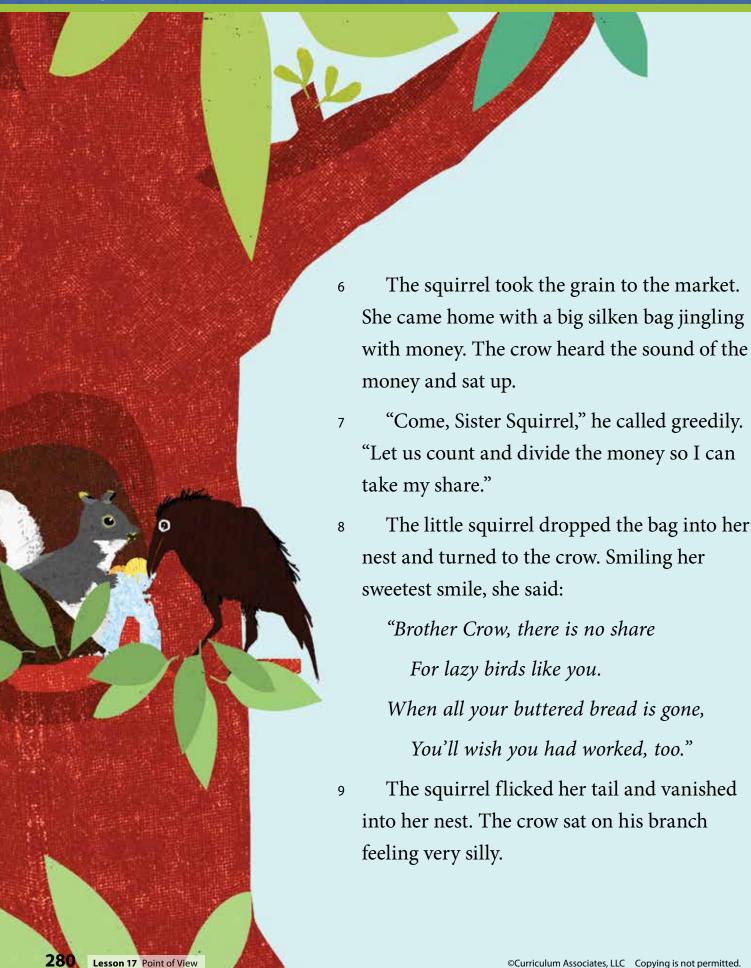
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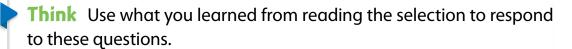
I'll eat this piece of buttered bread

And be with you by noon."

The little squirrel planted seeds all by herself. Rain fell, and before long all the seeds had sprouted. Soon, every stalk had fat ears of wheat. "Come, Brother Crow," called the squirrel. "It's time to harvest the grain." But the crow settled himself in his nest.

The squirrel cut down the wheat. Soon there were piles of golden grain waiting to be put into sacks.





- Which sentence **best** describes the squirrel's point of view about working in the fields?
 - **A** She prefers to do the work herself.
 - **B** She enjoys plowing and planting.
 - **C** It is hard work, but it has to be done.
 - **D** She works only when she wants to work.
- What is the crow's point of view about hard work?
 - **A** Let others do the work, but all must share the results.
 - **B** Be sure you're well rested before you work.
 - **C** Share the work and share the results.
 - **D** A good friend is always happy to do the work for you.
- This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

Part A

Underline the sentence that tells the squirrel's feelings about what the crow deserves.

"Brother Crow, there is no share For lazy birds like you. When all your buttered bread is gone, You'll wish you had worked, too."

Part B

Tell what the sentence you marked in Part A means.

Read these lines from the story.

"Come, Sister Squirrel," he called greedily. "Let us count and divide the money so I can take my share."

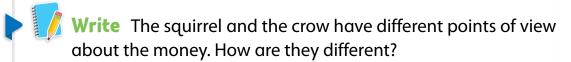
Underline the dictionary definition in the box below that **best** matches this use of the word "share."

share verb

- 1 to have or use something with others (to share toys)
- 2 to talk about with others (to share feelings)

share noun

- a part of something that has been divided equally (a share of the prizes)
- **2** the amount you are responsible for (your share of the work)



- Plan Your Response In the story, underline one sentence that tells the squirrel's point of view. Then underline a sentence that tells the crow's point of view. Make a chart like the one on page 273. Use the sentences you underlined to help you complete the chart.
- **Short Response** How is the squirrel's point of view about the money she brings home different from the crow's point of view? Use details from the story in your answer.



Learning Target

Why is thinking about a character's point of view important when you tell a story to others?

