

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Point of View

Read the short story and answer each question.



The Secret Beneath the School

Tasha thought the new floorboard in the art room looked suspicious. She tapped it with her shoe—hollow. She glanced around and whispered, "Definitely hiding something."

Meanwhile, Nico watched her from across the room. He thought she was just trying to get out of painting. "Probably bored," he muttered.

But when Tasha returned after school with a screwdriver and lifted the board, Nico secretly followed her. Beneath it lay a dusty tunnel with air that smelled like wet paper and old secrets.

Tasha felt her heart leap. She loved mysteries. She imagined hidden treasure or a long-lost journal.

Nico felt his stomach twist. He hated dark spaces but hated looking scared even more.

They crawled in. The tunnel led to a small brick room beneath the stage. Inside was an old trunk full of school newspapers, scripts, and photos from over 100 years ago.

Tasha grinned. "We just found the school's forgotten history."

Nico laughed nervously. "And I didn't even faint."

They climbed out, covered in dust, both thinking: *We have to come back.*



Name: _____

The Secret Beneath the School

1. How does the third-person omniscient point of view affect the story?

- A. It lets the reader see the thoughts and emotions of both Tasha and Nico.
- B. It only shares Nico's thoughts and hides Tasha's.
- C. It gives a cold, distant description of what happened.
- D. It tells the story only through Tasha's point of view.

2. Why might the author have chosen to use third-person omniscient narration?

- A. To create confusion about who found the tunnel first.
- B. To focus more on the setting than the characters.
- C. To help the reader understand how both characters experience the same event differently.
- D. To explain the history of the school directly.

3. Fill in the blank:

The hidden tunnel led to a brick room filled with _____ from the school's past.

4. How did knowing both characters' thoughts help you understand the story better?

5. How would the story be different if it were told only from Nico's point of view?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: U

Lexile Level: 925L-1075L

Grade Level: 5th Grade, Middle of the Year

Genre: Adventure Mystery – Third-Person Omniscient

Introducing the Text

“This story is told using third-person omniscient narration, which means the author lets us see inside the minds of more than one character. As you read, pay attention to how the story feels different because we know what both Tasha and Nico are thinking and feeling.”

Vocabulary: suspicious, screwdriver, tunnel, twisted, faint

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What kinds of adventures or mysteries have you read that happen in everyday places?
 2. What does it mean when a story is told in third person?
 3. How do you think it changes a story if we hear more than one character's thoughts?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What does Tasha feel when she discovers the floorboard is hollow?
 2. How does Nico's reaction differ from Tasha's?
 3. Why is it important that we see both perspectives?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How does the third-person omniscient narrator influence how we view the characters?
 2. What might have been misunderstood if the story was told from just one perspective?
 3. Why is it useful to understand the point of view when reading a story?
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Activity Idea

Invite students to write a short retelling of one scene using third-person **limited** from either Tasha's or Nico's view. Then compare how it feels different when the narrator only shares one character's thoughts.

