

# Literary Fiction

## Objective

Students will identify whether a story is written in first or third person point of view, sequence events, and describe character interactions and relationships.

## Materials

- Two literary fiction texts—a text for teacher modeling (one for teacher) and a text for student practice (one per student or group)
- Literary Fiction handout

## Overview

Provide explicit instruction with modeling before having students practice independently or in groups. This activity may be done over several days.

## Activity

1. Distribute the texts and handout.
2. Explain the descriptions at the top of the handout—points of view, sequencing events, and character relationships and changes.
3. Model for students how to complete the handout. You may break up the activity by completing one or more parts of the handout each day. Reread the entire text each day.
4. Have students complete handout for the second text. Provide scaffolding as needed.

Adapted from Vaughn Gross Center for Reading and Language Arts at The University of Texas at Austin. (2009). *Teacher reading academies*. Austin, TX: Author.

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## Background Knowledge

- **Points of view:**

- First person: The person the story is about tells the story. The story uses pronouns such as *I* and *me*.
- Third person: A person not in the story tells the story. The story uses pronouns such as *he*, *she*, *it*, and *they*.

- **Sequencing events:**

Putting events in the order that they happened

- **Character relationships and changes:**

- Relationships: How characters relate to one another
- Changes: How characters grow over the course of the story

## Directions

1. Read the story.
2. Write the title in the blank at the top of the worksheet on the next page.
3. In the **Point of View** section:
  - Circle whether the story was written in first-person or third-person point of view.
  - Write a sentence that supports how you know the point of view.
4. In the **Event Sequencing** section:
  - Choose three events in the story. In order, summarize each event in the correct box by writing two or three sentences that capture what happened. Use your own words.
  - Write two or three sentences that describe how those events might influence future events.
5. In the **Characters** section:
  - Choose three characters from the story and write their names.
  - In two or three sentences, explain the relationship between the characters.
  - Explain how each of the characters changed over the course of the story.

**Title**

**Point of View**

What is your support?

Circle one:    First person    or    Third person

**Event Sequencing**

**Event 1**

**Event 2**

**Event 3**

**Future events**

<b>Character 1</b>	<b>Character 2</b>	<b>Character 3</b>
<b>Relationship between characters</b>		
<b>Character 1 changes</b>	<b>Character 2 changes</b>	<b>Character 3 changes</b>