

Read, Read, Read!

Probably the best use of your time is to do some reading.

Try to read 30-45 minutes each day or more

Why read? Because it provides:

- Mental Stimulation
- Stress Reduction
- Increased Knowledge
- Improves Vocabulary
- Improves Focus
- Stronger Analytical Thinking Skills
- Better Writing skills (yes, reading actually makes YOU a better writer)

AND no one is telling you what to read! You can read whatever you and your parents agree on!

Vocabulary!

It is so important to keep learning new vocabulary to file away in your brain files. During this time at home here are some options for vocabulary activities:

- While reading your book, choose at least 2 new vocabulary words from each chapter and log them in a journal or in Google Docs.
 - Word, prediction of definition, part of speech, and definition from dictionary.
- When you have at least 10 new words (or more) here are some ideas:
 - Create a crossword puzzle
 - Write sentences using each word correctly
 - Write a short story using the words (feel free to do an illustration too)
 - Create a vocabulary quiz
 - Make flashcards
 - Draw illustrations for each word
 - Make your own dictionary/glossary for your book

Point of View Writing

We are doing some activities about Point of View

Activity: Day in the Life of...

You will be writing a one page story using First Person point of view. Here are the guidelines:

- Must be an object, not an animal or person
 - Can be anything you choose but, here are some examples; toothbrush, shoe, phone, video game controller, spoon, pencil, etc.
- Read the examples on the following slides
- Write your story
 - You must tell the story from the object's point of view, so pretend you are that object
 - Use the pronouns I, my, me
- Have fun!

Share!

POINT OF VIEW

First Person

The narrator is a character in the story who can reveal only personal thoughts and feelings and what he or she sees and is told by other characters. He can't tell us thoughts of other characters.

Third-Person Objective

The narrator is an outsider who can report only what he or she sees and hears. This narrator can tell us what is happening, but he can't tell us the thoughts of the characters.

Third-Person Limited

The narrator is an outsider who sees into the mind of one of the characters.

Omniscient

The narrator is an all-knowing outsider who can enter the minds of more than one of the characters.

I Am A ...

All is silent in my storage locker. Then all of the sudden I hear it, the laughing, screaming and talking of my torturers. Aw shoot, here we go again. I am blinded by the light coming through the opening door. The kid grabs me with force and drops me and my friends on the ground with a BANG. Pain flares up my spine which binds me together. Then I hear the backpack getting shoved into the locker with the slam of the door a few seconds after. The kid rushes to be on time, meanwhile dropping me on the floor. They sigh and pick me up. They set me down on their desk, not quite as hard as before but still I feel a dull pain. I'm in so much pain but it's only been something like three minutes. They open me up and I feel a searing pain, like a hot knife in my back, as they take their papers out. Just then the bell rings and interrupts everyone.

If I could talk I would've heaved a huge sigh. But then the teacher says "Everyone open your binders and get piece of paper for a pop quiz." I made the mistake of celebrating too early, again. It keeps going on like this until lunch. This is my only time to have some peace and quiet too let myself heal. About thirty minutes later the bell rang. Another period of agony to get through. And all of the sudden, the kid takes me out with such force that the covering on my spine tears. The kid starts crying and the teacher comes over. Hysterically the kid says "My binder broke." Then the teacher grabs me and throws me in the garbage, and pulls out a replacement binder. I wish i could tell the binder to make a run for it was useless because one I couldn't talk and two binders can't run. So please treat me with care, no one realizes that I have feelings and can feel pain.

A TYPICAL DAY AT SCHOOL

The door opens, and gentle footsteps telegraph that someone has entered the room. This is a sign that a new day has begun, and I will be left to be tortured once more. As the keyboard slowly clicks and breaks the soothing silence, I am slowly driven insane. Luckily, the sound of 31 footsteps abruptly begins, which drowns out the soft clicking. Though, those footsteps do not act as a savior; more like a dreadful omen. This is because those footsteps are of children, my torturers. The children constantly drop and bruise me, and wear away my spine. Unfortunately I cannot stop them, for I am unable to move or speak.

I am a textbook, and a day of school that a child takes for granted is my worst nightmare coming alive. If not being driven insane or unmercifully abused, I am sitting and waiting, waiting to for my torture. The only thing that gets me through another day is the feeling of being wanted, needed. I am needed because my thick cover conceals vital facts, my soft, smooth pages filled with important information that must be absorbed by the developing mind of a child. If only the children appreciated me.

As I am hauled away by a child into a first class, I am on the edge of falling, tipping from side to side on the fingertips of a child. As I fall, my whole life flashes, and I try to force out a high-pitched scream. But I cannot scream. I cannot cry. I only wait. Wait for it to happen once more.

As I am slammed down on the table in front of the child, my back bruises and pain suddenly stabs through my spine. I am opened, and this increases the nearly unbearable pain in my backbone that binds together my information. The child reads from me, and then rapidly flips to the next page, leaving a rip as if to mark his territory.

As the day comes to a spiraling end, a feeling of relief fills me. I am noisily replaced back onto the shelf by a student, bruising me a bit more. I sit and wait for the next day to begin, wait to be tortured, wait to be driven insane by the soft clicking of the keyboard.

CLICK, the light is turned off, which transforms the room into a beautiful dark cavern. The door closes, and the last soul has left the room. I sit alone on the shelf, silently collecting dust upon my cover. This is my day-to-day life. I cannot change it. I cannot alter it. I can only wish, wish for less abuse. This wish, of course, never comes true. I hear footsteps, the blinding light is turned back on. CLICK, CLICK, CLICK, these noises softly escape the keyboard. 31 footsteps. Here we go again.

Brainstorm for A Day in the Life of an Object

What do you hear?

What do you see?

Where are you located? Do you go anywhere during the day?

Is it a good life? Are you bored? Are you treated badly or nice?

Point of View Practice: Titanic

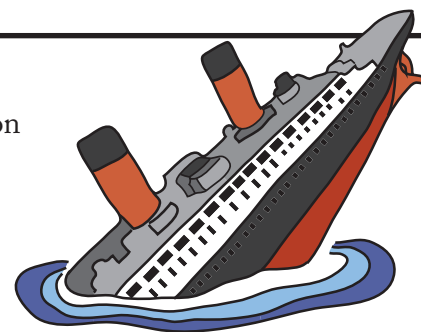
Directions: Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

★ In an informational text, the author shares his or her point of view.

The **point of view** is also known as the author's personal attitude, feelings, or opinion on the subject.

When you read, ask yourself:

- What point is the author trying to make?
- What does he or she believe about the topic?
- What evidence does the author give to support his point of view?



The Titanic's Tragic History

Just four days into its maiden voyage, the amazing Titanic met its tragic end. After several ice warnings were previously issued to the ship, the large vessel struck an iceberg on the night of April 14, 1912. Less than three hours later, the Titanic was at the bottom of the ocean.

Over 2,000 people were aboard on its first voyage, which departed from England and traveled to the United States. This was the largest passenger ship of its time, and it is still one of the most famous ships in history. The massive ship was beautiful and talked about all over the world. However, the ship was not equipped with enough lifeboats in case disaster struck. And disaster did strike. The crew was not prepared.

It took an hour after the Titanic struck the iceberg before any lifeboats were actually launched. Many boats were not filled to capacity before they were released into the ocean. For example, one lifeboat left with only 28 people on board when it could have held 64 people. This was a senseless mistake that cost even more people their lives.

From the time the ship hit the iceberg, the passengers had less than three hours to figure out how to survive. Many passengers in the lower decks were unable to make it to the top decks. There was panic as the freezing water of the Atlantic Ocean entered the ship and began pulling it to the bottom of the ocean.

If the Titanic had been more prepared with lifeboats and procedures for disaster, more lives would have been saved. About 60% of the passengers and crew on board the Titanic died on that tragic day out at sea.

1. What is the author's viewpoint on the Titanic?

Text Evidence:

2. How would the text be different if it had been told from a survivor's point of view rather than this author's point of view?

3. How do you feel about the Titanic? How does your viewpoint compare to the author's viewpoint?
