

Teaching Notes

The goal of RI.3.6 is for students to be able to distinguish their own point of view from the author's point of view while reading a text. The following information contains ideas that teachers can incorporate into their classroom as well as additional resources to peruse and integrate into instruction as appropriate.

Activities

1. One of the most common ways to discover point of view is by reading editorials in a newspaper or magazine. Authors of editorials or opinion texts present a clear point of view. Find an editorial for the class to read. Ask students to think about how the writing would change if the author had the opposite opinion.
2. Explain that historians, scientists, and other writers of nonfiction texts show their points of view as well as opinion writers. Discuss historical or scientific events from a different perspective or point of view:
 - a. How did it feel to build the pyramids?
 - b. What did the Native Americans think when the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock?
 - c. How might it feel to be an animal in a zoo?
 - d. How would the diaries of Civil War soldiers be different in the North and the South?
 - e. How would it be different to be the President giving a speech vs. a person in the audience listening to the same speech?

Writing Prompts

1. Have students write a paragraph that shows their opinion. (Choose a topic like favorite food, best pet, who should be president, etc.) Have them state their opinion and give four or five important facts that could help persuade an audience that their point of view is correct. Then, have them switch papers with a classmate. Have the classmate read and respond on a different sheet of paper: *What was the original author's point of view? How does your point of view differ from your classmate's? What could your classmate have said to make their argument stronger?*
2. Have students write two paragraphs about a topic of their choosing. First, have them write about their topic showing their opinion. Then, have them write about the topic showing an opposing opinion.

Additional Resources

Consider these additional resources when teaching RI.3.6:

Assessment Possibility: This site has a sample assessment and scoring examples for classroom use:

- <http://www.readtennessee.org/sites/www/Uploads/Binder3.pdf>
- <http://www.readtennessee.org/sites/www/Uploads/Binder4.pdf>

“Author’s Perspective” Video: In this three-minute video, a teacher gives some helpful tips on finding an author’s point of view:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8PQ0Xjt4D7A>