

Boost Free Lessons - Year 9 English

Lesson 17: Imaginative Writing: Point of View

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Read the scene below.

The referee blew the whistle for the third time in as many minutes. From the sideline, Coach Delaney said nothing at all, which everybody noticed.

Your task: Write a narrative of about 400 to 500 words that includes this moment, told from a **first-person** point of view.

Then, in two or three sentences at the end, explain who your narrator is and why you chose them.

You will be assessed on narrative voice, characterisation, and control of what the reader is allowed to know.

Worked Example 1

Choosing a point of view: how does the choice change the story?

1. The events stay fixed. What changes is **who is watching** and what they can know.
2. A player on the field feels the whistles but cannot see the coach's face.
3. A substitute on the bench sees the coach clearly but is not part of the game.
4. The coach knows why they are silent, but a reader loses all mystery about it.
5. Choose the narrator with the most interesting **blind spot**, not the most information.

Choose the narrator whose blind spot creates the most tension, not the one who knows most.

Remember: The events stay fixed. Choose the narrator with the most interesting **blind spot**, and let the reader work out what the narrator cannot.



Question 1: Plan your response before you begin writing.

1. Who my narrator is, and where they are in the scene

2. What my narrator can see and hear

3. What my narrator cannot know

4. Why Coach Delaney says nothing

5. Three showing details I will use

6. What the reader should understand by the end



Question 2: Write your narrative below. Continue on the next page.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Continue your narrative here.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



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Model Response and Self-Check: Imaginative Writing: Point of View**Model Response**

I was on the bench, which meant I could see everything and do nothing about any of it.

The third whistle went and our whole back line stopped moving, the way you stop when you have run out of ways to be surprised. Somebody swore. Somebody else said it was fine, which it was not.

I looked at Coach Delaney because everybody was looking at Coach Delaney.

He had his arms folded and his weight on the back foot and he was watching the referee with an expression I had seen exactly once before, at the end of last season, in a car park, while he told us the club had eleven weeks of funding left.

He did not shout. He did not walk down the line. He did not do the thing he always did, which was to call the captain over and say something short and unrepeatable and send her back out lighter than she went in.

He just stood there.

Beside me, Priya said, "Is he all right?" and I said yes, because that is what you say, and because I did not know.

We lost by two. In the rooms afterwards he told us it was the best defensive half we had played all year, and he meant it, and I watched eleven people believe him and felt something turn over in my chest, because I had seen his face at the third whistle and they had not.

He shook the referee's hand on the way out. He always does.

My narrator is a substitute on the bench. I chose her because she can see the coach clearly while the players cannot, but she has no way of knowing what he is thinking, so the reader is left working it out alongside her.

Check your own response

1. My narrative includes the given moment.
2. It is written consistently in first person.
3. My narrator only knows what they could plausibly know.
4. There is something my narrator cannot work out.
5. I have shown character through action rather than description.
6. My dialogue, if any, is punctuated correctly.
7. I have varied my sentence lengths for effect.
8. I have explained my choice of narrator at the end.
9. I have checked my spelling and punctuation.

