



March 23- 27, 2020

Topic: Elements of Creative Nonfiction
 Subtopic: Angle and Point of View

Overview

1. The writer writes the story and chooses who will narrate it. The narrator of the story defines the angle from which the story unfolds. For example, when an accident occurs, the injured party would narrate a story of pain while the offender would narrate a story of denial. In other words, the story changes depending on who is telling it.
2. According to Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo (2003, 32), point of view has to do with perspective. Perspective answers the questions from whose angle the story is being told while point of view refers to whether the story is told in the first, second, or third person.
3. When writing a creative nonfiction piece, it should reveal “the writer’s unique perspective on, or attitude toward the subject” (Kneel, 1991, 6).

POINT OF VIEW

	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
First Person A character within the story uses the pronoun I to narrate the story.	The character and the narrator are the same.	The reader only knows what point of view the character knows.
	It makes the readers close to the character.	It is more difficult to understand other characters because the first- person point of view does not know their thoughts.
Second Person The narrator uses You to tell the story.	The writer has full control of the detail of the story.	Rarely used of the viewpoint can be confusing. Who is actually saying “you”?
	The reader can be made to feel part of the action.	Limited use in fiction, but effective in narrating self-help books or travel and tourism books.
Third Person The narrator uses He, She, It to tell the story.	Readers get to know several characters.	Readers feel a certain distance from the characters.
	The writer can focus more on the action of the characters.	The shift from character to character can be overwhelming or confusing.
	The writer has a limitless authorial voice. He can write even the language of a child, an animal, a psychotic, etc.	It requires more effort and revision.

ACTIVITY: Read the selection about a journey to one of the country’s proverbial “Last Frontier”. Identify the sensory images and the angle and grammatical point of view in the text.



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GRADE 12 – CREATIVE NONFICTION

LONGING FOR LAGEN

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The moment I saw the lights of the Ten Knots Resort in Lagen from our boat, I immediately knew that I would love the place and will be longing for it after our brief visit.

Sunset had brought cool breezes when we boarded a big pump boat from Lio Beach for the 45-minute trip to the island of Lagen. The fiery colors of the silently changing sky were painfully beautiful. The silhouettes of dozens of islands in Bacuit Bay were like gentle giants lying and sitting on the water, listening to the ancient song of the sea wind. The dusk and the whole world, was waiting for the appearance of the last blue moon of the millennium.

From a distance, the lights of Lagen do not look like diamonds, but tiny balls of gold. Their brilliance is not intimidating, like the light from the lamp of a lover waiting by the seashore. Their glow is like a beacon calling home, promising a blissful and restful sleep to the tired traveler.

Lagen is perfect for writing. As soon as I entered the room, I could sense the presence of the Muses of Metaphors. I couldn't help but sit down and scribble lines and lines of prose and poetry in my diary. It was like my pen and my hands had acquired their own creative mind.

Perhaps, they can also hear the giggling of the green sea turtle in the pastel painting hanging on the wall by an artist named Raralio. I was certain it is the portrait of the same turtle that greeted us that morning when our boat from Malampaya Sound entered Bacuit Bay. I could hear the faint but familiar giggle.

That night, after a sumptuous dinner, I washed the tiredness from the previous day's travel that clung to my skin like dust, in the surprisingly warm water of the pool. While swimming and floating noiselessly like a turtle, I watched the blue moon perfecting its shape before the invisible bell of midnight tolls.

When I laid my head on the pillow, I felt asleep thinking of the sea feathers gracefully swaying beneath the blue waters of El Nido when we arrived that afternoon. The blueness of the water was a blessing to my tired soul.

I woke up early the next day. When I opened the French windows to the verandah, I was greeted by the twittering of dozens of birds inhabiting the trees and the crevices of the massive limestone cliffs that embrace the landscape of Lagen.

From my knapsack, I took out a copy of my latest acquisition - a book of love poems. I sat on the rattan lounging chair and read the poems aloud to myself, and for the trees and the birds to hear.

The next time around, I would like to stay in Lagen for a longer period. And when I sit down in my room guarded by Raralio pastel sketches of seascapes and marine lives, I will remember that moment when I was floating on the warm water of the pool, watching the quick maturing of the blue moon, and that morning when I read poetry to feed my soul.

For now, I will just cherish in my heart the sweet sadness of my longing for the beauty of Lagen.

Questions Discussion

1. What is the point of view in the selection?
2. What are the images from the text? What do they suggest about the narrator?
3. Why did the narrator say "Lagen is perfect for writing"?
4. Have you ever had the same feeling as the narrator's in any of your journeys?
5. What is the central message of the text?



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Writing Activity

Write a short, first-person paragraph about the place that you have visited before and would want to visit again. Describe the place including the aspects that make it unique. Observe sensory images. The output is graded based on clarity, vividness, organization and correctness.

References:

Creative Nonfiction: A Textbook on Humanities and Social Sciences page 57

Creative Nonfiction page 37