

Lesson 24: You will be able to write in the First and Third Person in a Narrative Essay

Purpose of Lesson 24: You will be Able to Write in the First and Third Person in a Narrative Essay.

Skills: critical thinking, reading comprehension, vocabulary, writing

Words to Learn:

first person singular - “I” and other pronouns such as “me,” “my,” “myself,” “mine”: *I can speak for myself, is an example of a sentence in the first person singular form.*

third person singular - “he” or “she” and other pronouns such as “him,” “her,” “himself,” “herself,” “his,” “her,” “hers”: *He supports his family by working two jobs.*

third person plural - “they” and other pronouns such as, “them,” “themselves,” “their,” “theirs”: *The settlers protected themselves from outside invaders.*

Directions: Read the conversation below and complete the exercises that follow.

1



Thanks for letting me interview you for the family newsletter, Grandpa Sinbad.

2

No problem, Bella. I always like to be of help to you if I can.



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3



How old are you?
Where were you
born? What kind of
work did you do?
When did you retire?

4

I am ninety-four, and I
was born in Newark,
New Jersey. I retired
in 1978, and I was a
painter.



5



What was it like,
growing up before
television, computers,
and cars?

6

I had a lot of fun growing
up, and spent as much time
as possible outdoors. I
walked to many places. I
also read books and went to
the movies.



7



What events do you
remember the most,
looking back on your
life?

8

The events I remember
most in my life are the birth
of my son, Joseph; the birth
of my grandchildren, Bella,
Dora, and Omar; and New
Year's Day 2000.



9



Thanks for all your
time. I will show you
my essay when I am
done.

10

You are very welcome,
Bella. I will look forward to
reading about myself.



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Bella is now ready to rewrite her interview into a story about Sinbad.

- She needs to change the answers he gave her, from the first person to the third person.
- In this way, the story will be about Sinbad, rather than a personal narration.
- Here are her original interview answers in the first person and the ones she changed to the third person for her story.
- Remember to be specific in your first sentence by identifying the person you are writing

INTERVIEW ANSWERS (first person)

- I am ninety-four and I was born in Newark, New Jersey.
- I worked as a painter.
- I retired in 1978.
- I had a lot of fun growing up without computers, television, or cars.
- I spent as much time as possible outdoors, and I walked to many places.
- I also read books and went to the movies.
- The events I remembered most are the birth of my son, Joseph; the birth of my grandchildren, Dora, Bella, and Omar; and New Year's Day, 2000.

INTERVIEW ANSWERS (third person)

- **Sinbad** is ninety-four and was born in Newark, New Jersey.
- He worked as a painter.
- He retired in 1978.
- He had a lot of fun growing up without computers, television, or cars.
- He spent as much time as possible outdoors, and he walked to many places.
- He also read books and went to the movies.
- The events he remembered most are the birth of his son, Joseph; the birth of his grandchildren, Dora, Bella, and Omar; and New Year's Day, 2000.