

The Author's Viewpoint vs. My Viewpoint

Point of view or **viewpoint** is the way we feel about the topic or events in a piece of text.

- **Opinions, beliefs, and reasons** are clues in the text that help us recognize the author's personal attitude or feelings on the subject.

Example	Author's Viewpoint	Text Evidence
Watching too much television is connected to poor eating habits.	Too much television is not good for you.	The text says that poor eating habits can happen because of watching too much television.

Directions: Read the passages below and complete the chart.

Passage	Author's Viewpoint What does the author think about the topic?	Text Evidence What clues tell you about the author's viewpoint?	My Viewpoint What do you think about the topic?
It is hard for scientists to know how many West Indian manatees there are. They estimate between 2,000 to 5,000. The West Indian manatee has been listed as an endangered species. This means that the population is so low that the West Indian manatee is in danger of becoming extinct. Many die because of accidents with ships or other human causes, such as pollution. Federal and state laws protect the manatee. Scientists are working to find ways to help the manatee survive.	Answers will vary, but may include: The author believes that it is important to help the manatee survive.	Answers will vary, but may include: The text focuses on the fact that there are not many manatees and that the manatee is in danger of becoming extinct.	Student answers will vary.

The Author's Viewpoint vs. My Viewpoint

Passage	Author's Viewpoint What does the author think about the topic?	Text Evidence What clues tell you about the author's viewpoint?	My Viewpoint What do you think about the topic?
<p>Soda is a drink that can taste very good, especially on a hot day. But did you know how bad it is for your health? Soda has a lot of calories, and it has too much sugar. Soda has been linked to different health problems, such as diabetes and obesity. Soda can even cause problems in your mouth. With so much sugar in the soda, it is bad for your teeth. Stick to water for a healthier life!</p>	<p>Answers will vary, but may include:</p> <p>The author's opinion about soda is that it is bad for your health and that you should not drink it.</p>	<p>Answers will vary, but may include:</p> <p>The text includes a list of the negative effects of soda on a person's health.</p> <p>The clue words in the text that show the author's opinion are: health problems, too much sugar, a lot of calories, so much sugar, bad for your teeth.</p>	<p>Student answers will vary.</p>
<p>Taking a break is a good thing. Adults take breaks in their jobs, and kids take breaks in school. Recess helps kids focus and stay on-task better when they are in the classroom. Going outside for recess is good for your health. The light helps us feel better, stay healthy, and keep our body in a routine. Kids get to run around at recess, which is good for physical health. Recess is a great time for kids to play together and build relationships.</p>	<p>Answers will vary, but may include:</p> <p>The author's viewpoint is that recess is a positive thing for students in school.</p>	<p>Answers will vary, but may include:</p> <p>Text evidence states, "Taking a break is a good thing."</p>	<p>Student answers will vary.</p>