

Point of View: Being the New Kid

Good readers use clues to determine the **point of view** of the text.

- A narrator can tell the story.
 - Key Words: he, she, it, they
 - Hint: the person telling the story is not in the story.
- A character can tell the story.
 - Key Words: I, me, we, us
 - Hint: the person telling the story is in the story.



Directions: Read the story below. Then answer the questions.

Being the New Kid

I got off the bus with the other kids from my neighborhood. Although I had met some really nice kids while I was at the bus stop that morning, I couldn't help feeling nervous as I began my first day at the new school. The other kids looked like they already knew everyone, and it seemed that they weren't interested in having me as a friend.

I found my classroom and went inside. I looked around and did not see a single familiar face. Normally, I had so many friends in my class and school days were my favorite. I was worried that I would not make any friends at this new school. I desperately missed my friends in my old town.

"Denise, welcome to our class!" Mrs. Anderson said. She gave me a warm smile and showed me to my seat. The teacher explained some of the class procedures and told me about the day's schedule. I sat down in my seat and started my morning assignment. I secretly watched the other kids and wondered if any of them were interested in being my friend.

After class started, I felt better as I focused on my teacher's lessons. I worked hard to follow along and take notes. If I kept my mind on my schoolwork, I would learn and get good grades. That was something I could feel good about! I almost forgot about the fact that I was the new girl. But as soon as Mrs. Anderson directed our class to prepare for lunch and recess, I felt that pit in my stomach return. I would have to face the fact that I didn't know anyone.

Mrs. Anderson dropped us off at the lunchroom. I followed my classmates to our assigned table, but I didn't know where to sit. I asked one of the other girls in the class if she knew where there was an empty seat, and the girl, Nina, politely helped me. I took my seat and began opening my lunch. At least I had a place to sit and a thoughtful classmate.

Nina and I chatted all through lunch. I almost did not finish eating because I was busy learning all about my new friend Nina. We decided that we would hang out during recess, too. I was relieved that I had asked for help. Sometimes good things come even when you don't expect them!

Name: _____

Date: _____

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1. Who is telling the story?

How do you know?

2. What is Denise's opinion about being the new kid?

3. How might Denise's point of view change if she was no longer the new kid in the class?

4. Rewrite a part of the story from the point of view of Mrs. Anderson.
