

Persuasive Lens

Lesson Objective

- ✓ Lens
- ✓ Using Lens

Activate Prior Knowledge

A paragraph usually begins with a topic sentence. In the paragraph above, the topic sentence is this:

Some Movie World rides, like rollercoasters, can be scary experiences.

This topic sentence can be divided into two elements. Besides having a topic, it also has an idea or attitude about the topic. This idea or attitude is called a controlling idea or the main point.

- The subject—Movie World rides.
- The lens—frightening experience.

Some amusement park rides, like rollercoasters, can be frightening experiences. Looking at a rollercoaster from the ground can make you think it is fun. However, once you are up in the air, your feelings can change. The coaster goes higher than you thought. The cars bump and swerve around so you feel as if you are about to fall out. Going to an amusement park is enjoyable, but it might be scary, too.

Underline the subject and circle the lens.

1. Smoking cigarettes is harmful to your health.
2. Taking the train can save money.
3. Our capitol building is one of the most beautiful in the country .
4. Sandra is a high school student who is very talented but quite shy .
5. The best tennis players need to be graceful.

Moreover, the controlling idea must clearly focus on a specific aspect or feeling. Look at the following:

A dog is a good pet.

In each of the following groups of two, underline the one which is the best topic sentence. On the line which follows each paired group, explain your choice.

1. The Sound of Music is a delightful film.
2. The children in The Sound of Music make it a delightful film.
3. New York is too crowded.
4. New York has many problems.
5. Almost every large city has a K-Mart.

Concept Development

Your subject is what you're talking about.

Your theme is like the lens you use to look at that subject. It can change how the subject appears, highlighting or downplaying certain aspects, and even making it seem like something completely different. You should be able to summarize your theme and subject in one word each.

For Clinton, his subject is America, and his lens is change.

In this passage, we can see that he repeats "America" and "change" many times. Why? Because repetition is powerful and captivating to the audience. But more importantly, by repeating the subject and theme so closely and frequently, he creates a strong connection between "America" and "change" in the minds of the listeners.

When our founders boldly declared **America's** independence to the world and our purposes to the Almighty, they knew that **America**, to endure, would have to **change**. Not **change** for **change's** sake, but **change** to preserve **America's** ideals; life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness. Though we march to the music of our time, our mission is timeless. Each generation of **Americans** must define what it means to be an **American**.

Consider your **dog** as your best **friend**, for he is that and more. A true **friend** will be there to pick you up when you are down. They need not lick your face, but who better to do that than your **dog**?-If you're into that kind of thing.

Importance

It's simple: Neural associations are formed between items occurring frequently together. He presents the two items together frequently, and so "dog" becomes neurologically connected to "friend." Henceforth, thinking "dog" triggers "friend," and vice-versa.

Skill Development/Guided Practice

Step #1: Decide on your Subject and Lens

Step #2: Write your paragraph using repetition to lens them

Rewrite these paragraphs.

Firstly, it is vital that students are inspired to be fit and healthy from a young age. Schools need to teach students a variety of different sports and fitness ideas in order for them to find the best fit for them. Too many children are learning bad habits from an early age and this is leading to an unhealthy adult lifestyle.

Furthermore, children are playing sports after school like dance, netball, football, soccer, horse riding, tennis, swimming, basketball and hockey. Every child can find a sport to love and play. Children are playing these sports after school to keep fit and healthy. Almost every single student in our school plays a sport after school. If they increase physical education and your children play sport after school they will become as thin as a needle from over exercising, which is incredibly unhealthy.

In addition to that, the uniforms are really plain and boring. They have no colour or pattern except for blue. When our students go on excursions, people think that our school uniforms are boring and we are getting a bad reputation. When kids go to school they want to wear comfortable and fashionable clothes that make a good impression, not plain, boring uniforms that are making our school look awful in the community.

Check for Understanding

How do you write a persuasive lens?
Why are they important?

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Why are they important?

Closure

Write a persuasive paragraph for these:

1. Many people believe that television violence has a negative effect on society because it promotes violence. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your response.
2. Medical researchers, cosmetic companies, and others often perform experiments on animals. Many people feel that experimentation on animals is wrong and should be stopped immediately because animals do feel pain, and there are other alternatives. How do you feel? State your position and explain your reasons.
3. In order to save money, your principal is thinking about canceling all field trips for the remainder of the year. Write an essay persuading him or her to allow students to continue attending field trips. Use specific reasons and examples to support your response.

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Independent Practice

Write a persuasive paragraph for one of these:

