

LITERATURE

Worksheet for *I, Juan de Pareja*, by Elizabeth Barton de Trevino

The “point of view” is the perspective from which a story is told. There are three main points of view:

- ☐ First person: The narrator of a story, who is also usually a character in the story, tells it from his own perspective in first-person voice. The big clue that a story is told from this point of view is the use of the word “I.”
- ☐ Second person: A technique whereby the narrator of a story, who may be a character or the author himself, directly addresses the reader as “you.” You won’t find second person used as often in a work of fiction.
- ☐ Third person: This is the most common of the three points of view, where the person telling the story is outside of the narrative and therefore writes about the thoughts and actions of all his characters. Clue words for third person point of view are “he” and “she.”

I, Juan de Pareja is written in first person point of view because Juan is telling the story. Below are sentences from your reading for this week. Rewrite each sentence so that it is in the third person point of view.

1. “I, Juan de Pareja, heard those words with my own ears, and my heart sank.”

2. “I had not really been sad to be a slave, except for not being able to paint.”

3. “It would be necessary for us to take the first small coastal vessel we could find.”

4. “He must have overheard us.”

5. “He asked me now why I was so glum and I decided to tell him part of the truth.”

6. “I then gently opened the jaws and put my head down to sniff the dog’s breath.”

7. “Well, I will never know about this, as I will go to my grave not knowing many other things that have preoccupied my mind.”
