Determines who is telling the story—the perspective, or vantage point from which an author presents a story.
First-Person Point of View

**DEFINITION:**

In first person point of view, the story is told by one of the characters.

**EXAMPLE:**

As I placed a carefully wrapped package on the park bench, I looked up and saw Molly walking across the street. I hoped that she hadn’t seen me.
Third-Person Point of View

DEFINITION:
In the third-person point of view the story is told by a narrator who is not a character in the story.

TYPES:

- **Limited Omniscient Narrator**—relates the thoughts and feelings of just one character.
- **Omniscient Narrator**—knows the thoughts and feelings of all the characters.
Third-Person Point of View

**EXAMPLES:**

**Limited Omniscient Narrator**—As George placed the carefully wrapped package on the park bench, he looked up and saw Molly walking across the street.

**Omniscient Narrator**—George anxiously hoping that no one was watching him, placed a carefully wrapped package on an empty park bench. But Molly, who was walking home, saw him and couldn’t help thinking that he was acting strangely.
The Sky’s the Limit!

You must be able to do more than simple identify the point of view:

1. How does the point of view affect your responses to the characters?

2. How is your response influenced by how much the narrator knows and how objective he or she is?

3. First person narrators are not always trust worthy. How will you determine what is the truth and what is not?
TAKS QUESTION TIPS

MAKE SURE
you can support your answers with information from the passage

WATCH OUT!
for plausible statements that are not supported by the passage
accurate details that aren’t responsive to the question
41. The author’s use of the first-person point of view helps the reader understand—

A. why the narrator wanted to visit the Great Wall
   (plausible statement related to the theme, but doesn’t answer the question)

B. The thoughts and feeling of the narrator (correct answer)

C. Mr. Lao’s attitude about the Great Wall
   (plausible statement related to the theme, but doesn’t answer the question)

D. How the Chinese peasants felt about the wall
   (partially accurate information from passage, but doesn’t answer the question)
By telling the story from __________’s point of view, the author helps the reader better understand --

The author’s use of first-person point of view helps the reader understand --