



Name _____

Locked Mysteries

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Then analyze the **point of view**—the narrator’s position in telling the story.

Consider whether it is **first-person**, **third-person limited**, or **third-person omniscient**. Afterward, answer the questions to explain how this perspective shapes what readers know, feel, and understand about the characters and events.

The Hidden Key

I never should have followed my brother into the abandoned train yard, but curiosity got the better of me. He said he had found something strange near the rusted tracks, and I didn’t want to be left out. My heart pounded as we crept between the old cars, shadows stretching long in the fading light.

When he finally stopped, he pointed to a metal box half-buried in the dirt. “Go on, open it,” he whispered. My hands shook as I pulled out a small, ornate key that glimmered even in the dusk. I wondered what it unlocked—and if we were supposed to have it at all.

A hundred questions swirled through my head, but one thought was the loudest: if this key truly belonged to the stories about hidden tunnels, then we were in way over our heads. I gripped it tightly, unsure if I should feel thrilled or terrified.

1. What is the point of view in this story (first-person, third-person limited, or third-person omniscient)?
2. What clues in the passage reveal this point of view? Quote directly.
3. How does this point of view affect the way the story is told?
4. If the story were told from a different point of view, how might it change? Give one example.