



ELA Virtual Learning

**English III / Evaluating Structure
in Literature**

April 27, 2020

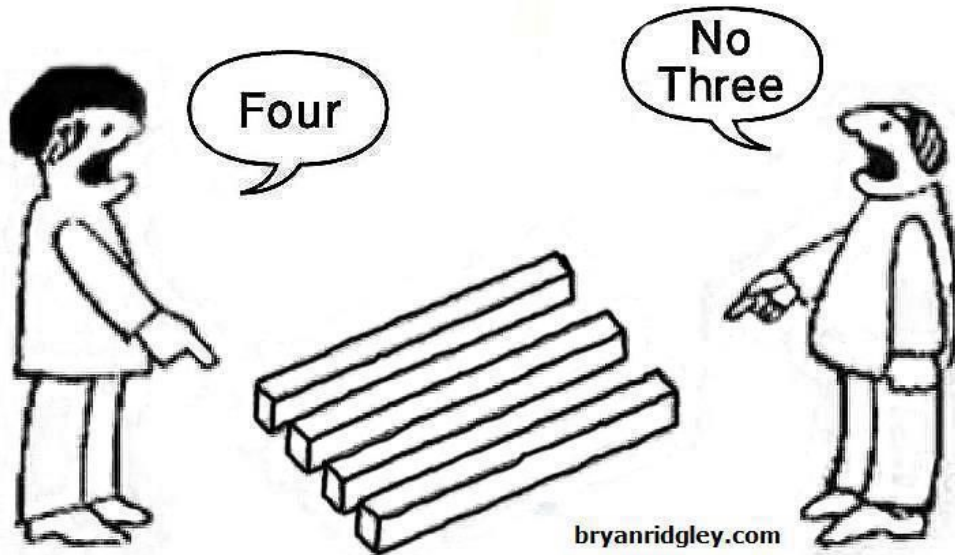


Lesson: April 27, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

- Evaluate how an author's structure of specific parts of the text contributes to the overall meaning
- Evaluate how an author's structure of specific parts of the text contributes to the aesthetic impact

Bell Ringer



How would you interpret this comic? How does perspective play a role in this situation?

Learn

By now, most of you should be familiar with the basic structure of a story (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution). Many experienced authors change up this basic format. The specific structural decisions they make can impact the overall meaning of the story, or how the reader interprets it.

1. Read [*In a Grove*](#) by Ryunosuke Akutagawa
2. As you read the story, use the highlighting and commenting features on Google Docs to annotate your thoughts. Pay attention to how the different perspectives in the story shape the overall meaning of the text and how they affect you as the reader.

Practice

After reading the short story and reviewing your notes, answer the questions below.

1. The author broke up the story into separate testimonies from various characters. How does this impact the way the reader experiences the story?
2. How does the structure of the story contribute to the overall meaning or theme of the text?

Practice Answer Key

(Answers will vary)

Check your answer to make sure it meets the following criteria:

- The response is written in complete sentences free of major spelling and grammatical errors.
- The response answers the question completely.

See an example of a proficient answer on the next slide.

Sample Proficient Answer

Akutagawa writes the story through testimonies from various characters. This makes the story completely dependent on differing points of view. Because there is not an omnipotent narrator, the reader must rely on the perspectives of each character. As each testimony contains conflicting details, the reader is confused about what objectively happens in the story. The unreliable narration contributes to the story's overall meaning that objective truth is difficult or perhaps even impossible to obtain.

Questions for Reflection

1. What sort of arguments or conflicts have you seen result from conflicting perspectives?
2. How can the structure of a story shape how the reader perceives that story?

Additional Resources

