

Name:

Fiction: Point of View & Perspective

Date:

*As you answer this week's questions, highlight your evidence in the text.*

## The Lucky Star

### Caleigh's Story

I am so glad to see Coach Haddad at the finals today. Even though her baby is due next month, she is here for us. She doesn't know whether she's having a boy or girl. Based on how strong the baby is kicking, however, Coach Haddad is pretty sure she's carrying a future soccer player. I want to win this game for Coach Haddad and her baby.

"We're all winners, because we made it to the final," Coach says. "And I am so proud of every girl on our team. Let's hope Caleigh ate her thirteen raisins and oatmeal!"

My "lucky breakfast" of raisins and oatmeal was legendary. I know it's superstitious, but when I eat it, we seem to win. Coach Haddad says she's glad I'm the one who eats it and not her, because while she's been pregnant the smell of oatmeal makes her feel sick.

This morning Mom ran to the corner store for raisins because we were out.

"That was a close one," Mom said, winking. "You're a star player, Caleigh, but the added magic of your thirteen lucky raisins can only help."

My position is **crucial**. I'm the goalie. In that box, I'm alone. Here in the final minutes of the game, I've never felt more alone.

Their lead striker is making her approach. Her name is Ani. Coach says Ani's been their leading scorer all season.

She hasn't scored on me yet. She scored when Tanya filled in as goalie in the third quarter. Ani slammed one in right over Tanya's head.

Rachel scored our only goal in the first quarter.

Now, in the last seconds of the final quarter, no one seems able to block Ani from taking her shot. I can feel my heart pounding in my chest. I have to stop that ball.

Ani's foot hits the ball with a sound that I can feel in my stomach. Where is that kick going? It arcs, and I dive to reach it, making my body as big as I can, the way Coach Haddad taught me.

It feels like I am stretching in all directions, legs and arms elastic as I reach for the ball.

My gloved hands brush it. I concentrate on making the catch. I'm the only player who can use my hands. I hear everyone shouting in the stands. The roar of sound is deafening.

I can see Coach Haddad watching, mouthing "Yes!"



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## The Lucky Star

### Ani's Story

My Dad is going to miss this game, but Mom says she will record it so he can see it when he is on leave. I know how proud he would be if I can do something great. Coach Garcia says she knows she can count on me. With Lindsey out with her broken foot, there is only me.

As Dad would say, "No pressure, no diamonds."

Dad went to every game last year, before he deployed again overseas. I miss him so much, but he always asks how my games are going. I always wear the "magic socks" he bought me before he left. They have a silver diamond pattern running up the side, from my ankle to my calf. I know it sounds a little crazy, but when I wear these socks, my kicks are stronger and more **accurate**. Coach Garcia tells me it's all in my head. But Dad and I know the truth...there's magic in those socks.

"The Finals, huh?" he told me on the morning of the game. "You've got this, Ani."

"It's going to be tough, though," I swirled my spoon around in my strawberry yogurt. It's hard to eat breakfast when my stomach's in knots. "Lindsey's still out with a broken foot. You know how good she is."

"Lindsey's good, but you're a star," my Dad said. He beams at me over the Skype call. It's not a hug, but it will do. "Don't forget your magic socks."

I wiggle a foot at the computer screen so he can see that I already have them on.

At the game, the other team is tough. The only time I've scored a goal was when their main goalie Caleigh was out on mandatory rest. But now Caleigh is back and the score is tied. Here, in the last moments of the game, it's my final chance to win this thing without a kick off.

I think I can do it. As Dad would say, you have to take the shot, girl. I can hear his voice in my head.

"Go for it Ani," he's shouting, all the way from where his army unit is stationed in Afghanistan.

I aim, kick, and watch it fly to the goal. And I watch Caleigh diving after my ball.

The crowd is roaring, and though he's not there, I still hear my father cheering me on.



Fiction: Point of View & Perspective

**Monday**

From what point of view are the stories being told?

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Why do you think this story is called The Lucky Star?

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Who is the main character in each story?

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Determine the meaning of the word **crucial** in the story.

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**Tuesday**

Who is the narrator of the first story?

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In Caleigh's story, how does her coach feel about Caleigh's "lucky breakfast"?

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Who is the narrator of the second story?

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Based on your answer above, how is this different from Ani's story?

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Fiction: Point of View & Perspective

**Wednesday**

How are the two stories similar?

In Ani's story, how does she feel about  
Caleigh?

In Caleigh's story, how does she feel about  
Ani? Support your answer.

Determine the meaning of the word  
**accurate** in the story.

**Thursday**

What information did we gain by reading the  
story from Ani's point of view?

If Caleigh stops the ball, how will Ani's story  
change?

How are Caleigh's mom and Ani's dad  
similar?

How does reading a story from a different  
perspective help the reader?

## Answer Key - Fiction: Point of View & Perspective

Monday	Tuesday
From what point of view are the stories being told?  first-person point of view	Who is the narrator of the first story?  Caleigh
Who is the main character in each story?  Caleigh; Ani	Who is the narrator of the second story?  Ani
Why do you think this story is called The Lucky Star? Accept all reasonable answers. Both girls are stars and they have things they do to bring them luck.	In Caleigh's story, how does her coach feel about Caleigh's "lucky breakfast"?  She thinks it brings the team luck.
Determine the meaning of the word <b>crucial</b> in the story.  important	Based on your answer above, how is this different from Ani's story?  Ani's coach thinks it is all in Ani's head.
Wednesday	Thursday
How are the two stories similar? Both are about soccer players who are getting ready for a game; both are superstitious; both are playing in the same game.	What information did we gain by reading the story from Ani's point of view?  We understand Ani's feelings and what happened to her the same day.
In Caleigh's story, how does she feel about Ani? Support your answer.  She thinks Ani is a strong soccer player.	How are Caleigh's mom and Ani's dad similar? How are they different?  They are both supportive of their daughters. Ani's dad is not there.
In Ani's story, how does she feel about Caleigh?  She thinks Caleigh is a good goalie.	If Caleigh stops the ball, how will Ani's story change?  Ani will be upset.
Determine the meaning of the word <b>accurate</b> in the story.  precise; exact	How does reading a story from a different perspective help the reader?  It helps them understand, or see the story from a different angle.