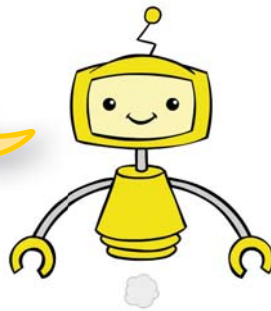


An excerpt from the book of Zak

Visitors' books can be full of interesting little recounts, but I have a far more exciting read for you — my diary! As Oscar Wilde once said 'I never travel without my diary. One should always have something sensational to read in the train.' Now, where should we begin? Hmm ... how about the time I went into the depths of the dark Alas Roban forest to save my poor, sick granny. Let's read what happened ...



LINKS TO:
 Stage 2, Module 17
 Learning Object 2: Sightseeing

PRIOR LEARNING:
Stage 2
 Module 5 Work Sheet 3: *Telling stories*
 Module 15 Work Sheet 6: *Tales of mystery and suspense*



All about recounts

1

A recount is a first-person description of past experiences, told in chronological order.

In recounts, the author is the narrator and tells the story using first person pronouns *aku/saya* (I/me) and *kami* (we).

Like other forms of narrative, a recount contains three elements or sections:

- the orientation or *bagian awal* (the beginning)
- the complication or *bagian tengah* (the middle)
- the resolution or *bagian akhir* (the ending).

Point of view and viewpoint

The choice of grammatical point of view and the viewpoint character are vital to the development of any story. Although the terms are very similar, they refer to slightly different aspects of the narration.

A story can be written from one of three points of view: first person, second person or third person.



For example:

<i>Saya pergi ke toko</i>	first person
<i>Kamu pergi ke toko</i>	second person
<i>Dia pergi ke toko</i>	third person.

A viewpoint character is the character through whose eyes the story is seen.

Recounts are written in first person, from the subjective viewpoint of the main character. They usually include the thoughts, impressions and feelings of the narrator.

Fairy tales, as you have already learnt, are written in third person, from the viewpoint of an objective storyteller.

The bias of the narrator affects the tone of the recount and the way the story develops. The same events would be described quite differently from the viewpoint of another character because everyone has their own perspective on a given set of events.

Exercise 1

Here is an excerpt from the Book of Zak. Let's take a look at what he says.

Kemarin pagi ibu menelepon untuk memberitahu bahwa Nenek jatuh sakit ketika berlibur di gubuknya di desa dekat Alas Roban. Nenekku selalu lincah dan penuh semangat jadi aku agak khawatir waktu mendengar dia harus tinggal di tempat tidur. Karena aku cucu yang penuh perhatian, kuputuskan untuk pergi berbelanja membeli makanan enak kegemaran Nenek dan kemudian pergi ke gubuknya untuk menghibur Nenek. Hari itu berangin, jadi aku mengenakan jubah merahku, mengambil tas belanjaku, dan menyalakan mesin pendorong turboku. Aku ingin sampai di tempat Nenek secepat mungkin.

Tidak makan waktu lama sebelum aku tiba di desa itu. Ketika berjalan menuju toko kue untuk membeli kue-kue yang enak, aku bertemu dengan seekor serigala yang periang. Dia bilang dia kenal baik dengan Nenek, dan dengan senang hati dia bisa pergi ke gubuk Nenek untuk menemaninya sehingga aku bisa belanja dengan tenang. Aku lega waktu mengetahui bahwa Nenek ada temannya jadi aku memutuskan untuk belanja lebih lama dan mencari makanan khas daerah itu yang paling disukai Nenek: lempur ayam, kue lapis legit dan selai mangga.

Setelah keranjangku penuh, aku berjalan melewati hutan menuju ke gubuk Nenek.

Ketika aku sampai di sana, pintu gubuknya terbuka. Aku langsung merasa khawatir. Kupanggil Nenek

tapi tidak ada jawaban. Aku melongok ke dalam dan melihat lampu di kamar Nenek menyala.

Memang sudah lama juga aku tidak bertemu Nenekku, tapi waktu kulihat dia terbaring di tempat tidur kelihatannya dia benar-benar sakit! Mungkin itu karena debu di mataku, tapi Nenek tidak pernah kelihatan begitu sakit.

Aku masuk. 'Nek,' kataku, 'Nenek kelihatan sakit! Ya ampun! Besar sekali mata Nenek!'

'Supaya bisa lebih jelas melihatmu!' katanya dengan suara parau. 'Coba mendekat dan peluk Nenekmu.'

Waktu aku mengapung mendekati tempat tidurnya, aku sadar bahwa Nenek kelihatan lebih parah daripada yang pertama kali kukira! 'Nek!' teriakku, 'besar sekali telinga Nenek! Nenek pasti merasa benar-benar tidak sehat!'

'Supaya bisa lebih jelas mendengarmu, sayang,' jawab Nenek.

Aku berhenti di tengah jalan. Jangan-jangan penyakit Nenek menular! Aku benar-benar sangat khawatir. 'Nek,' kataku lagi dengan terkejut, 'besar sekali mulut Nenek!'

'Supaya bisa lebih nikmat menelanmu, Zak sayang!' Nenek menggeram! Dan kemudian seekor serigala meloncat ke luar dari tempat tidur Nenek sambil menggeram dan menjegalku jatuh. Aku menjerit dan menggapaikan tanganku sementara dia mulai mengoyak jubahku.

(continued on following page)

(continued from previous page)

- Bersamaan waktunya dengan saat serigala akan menggigit putus kepalaku, Nenek masuk, tertawa cekikikan sambil memegang sepiring kue nanas dan teh. 'Oh, kamu tertipu, Zak, bukankah begitu? Pak Serigala yang baik ini suka sekali mempermainkan semua tamu-tamuku. Ayo, Pak Serigala Jahat, lepaskan cucuku dan nikmati teh ini. Zak, terima kasih banyak untuk makanan yang enak-enak ini. Mari, silakan makan bersama kami.'

Dengan pipi merah menahan rasa malu aku mengambil keranjang belanjaku dan memeluk Nenekku. Pak Serigala, yang waktu itu masih terguling-guling di lantai sambil tertawa terbahak-bahak, berdiri dan menjabat tanganku dengan bijaknya. Sambil duduk menikmati secangkir teh aku tidak bisa menahan tawaku!

Kukira aku harus selalu ingat bahwa walau sakit sekali pun, Nenekku punya rasa humor yang tinggi sekali.

Based on Zak's recount, answer the following questions in Indonesian.

1.1 Break down the structure of Zak's recount by filling out the following table in Indonesian.

You may write in point form if you wish.

Orientation Who is the story about? When is the story set? Where is the story set?	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Complication What is the problem the main character faces?	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

(continued on following page)

(continued from previous page)

Series of events
The first escalation

The second escalation

The third escalation

Resolution

Coda

1.2 Find and record any sentences that describe Zak's feelings about the events he recounts in his book.

1.3 An important part of any story is characterisation, or the development of each of the characters. How are each of the characters in Zak's story described? Find and record sentences and adjectives that describe each of the three main characters.

Zak:

Nenek:

Pak Serigala:

(continued on following page)

Exercise 2

Zak's recount is told from his viewpoint. How would the story change if it was told from the viewpoint of Pak Serigala? Although the events would unfold in a similar manner, the narrator's feelings, and his perspective on the motives and character of the other people in the story, would be entirely different.

Plan and construct a recount of the story Zak told in his book from the perspective of Pak Serigala.

Hint! Be creative! You may need to invent other events witnessed from the narrator's perspective to pad out your story. Don't forget to include the feelings of your viewpoint character.

2.1 Planning your recount: first, fill out the table from the perspective of Pak Serigala.

Orientation

Who is the story about?
When is the story set?
Where is the story set?

Complication

What is the problem the main character faces?

Series of events

The first escalation

The second escalation

(continued on following page)

(continued from previous page)

The third escalation

The fourth escalation

Resolution

Coda

(continued on following page)

(continued from previous page)

2.2 Viewpoint: how does Pak Serigala feel about the events that unfold? What are his thoughts and impressions? You may answer in point form.

2.3 Characterisation: as part of your recount, you will need to include descriptions of each of the characters. What adjectives would he or she use to describe each character when recounting the story?

Zak:

Nenek:

Pak Serigala:

2.4 Write a recount for Pak Serigala, incorporating your planning.

(continued on following page)

