

Name \_\_\_\_\_ **Author's Point of View**



# Approaching A Topic

Read each passage. What is the author's point of view in each? How does each author approach the topic differently?

1. Today, that movement is explained through a theory called plate tectonics. According to this theory, the earth's outer shell, called the lithosphere, is composed of multiple hard, rigid plates that glide over the earth's mantle. Plate tectonics is a modern version of Alfred Wegener's 1912 theory of continental drift, and it unifies all different geological theories that were previously unique to specific regions.
2. The only explanation for the earth's continents is that 200 million years ago there was a single, supercontinent named Pangea, which split apart because parts of the earth's crust drift slowly on top of a liquid core. There is fossil evidence to support this idea. First, there had once been a land bridge connecting South America, Africa, India, Australia, and Antarctica. Second, fossils of a marine reptile that predates the dinosaurs were found in both South America and South Africa, proving that there was once a supercontinent in the southern hemisphere.
3. Suddenly, the ground opened up before us. When it first began, it was as if a single crack in the earth in front of us became fuzzy, kind of blurry, like it was melting. Then a thin, burning red light, no wider than hair materialized there, growing steadily wider and wider until against everything that any of us thought possible, Professor Jenkin's heat resistant boat – with us riding wide-eyed on it – was drifting haphazardly down a sea of glowing lava.