Converting Sentences to the Third-Person

**Strategy 1:** Replace inappropriate pronouns with third-person words.

**Examples:**

- It offends us to hear Mr. Samsa say...
- Before Gregor transforms, we can see...
- When you read chapter one, you...

- It offends the reader to hear Mr. Samsa say...
- Before Gregor transforms, people can see...
- When students read chapter one, they...

**Word Bank:**
the writer, the reader, individuals, people, a person, students, a student, an instructor, a woman, a man, a child, researchers, scientists, writers, experts, the speaker, the narrator, the listener

**Strategy 2:** Replace inappropriate pronouns with indefinite third person pronouns.

**Examples:**

- When we read of Gregor’s change...
- I expected Mrs. Samsa to...
- You can understand Grete’s decision to...

- When one reads of Gregor’s change...
- Anyone would expect Mrs. Samsa to...
- Everybody can understand Grete’s decision to...

**Word Bank:**
one, anyone, everyone, someone, no one, another, everybody, nobody, other, anybody, somebody, someone

**Strategy 3:** Rewrite your sentence to make the same point using language in the third person.

**Examples:**

- My own sister is nothing like Grete.
- You can tell the story’s theme by...
- The story takes place outside of our country.

- Not all sisters are like Grete.
- The story’s theme is clear through...
- The story does not take place in the United States.

Remember to watch out for **ALL** 1st and 2nd person pronouns, not just “I” and “you”!

**Words to Avoid:** I, me, my, mine, myself, we, us, our, ours, ourselves, you, your, yours, yourself