



Mexico Trip

by Justin S., fifth grade writer

My dad and I went to Mexico for summer vacation. What were we doing in Mexico? Good question. My dad would not tell me.

When we pulled up to this place, I went cold. It was definitely not a mansion. It was not even a medium-sized house! We got out of the car. When we got in the house as tiny as a mouse hole, my jaw dropped immediately. There were no living plants, no lights, no clean walls or countertops andNO TELEVISION! I felt a tear in my eye.

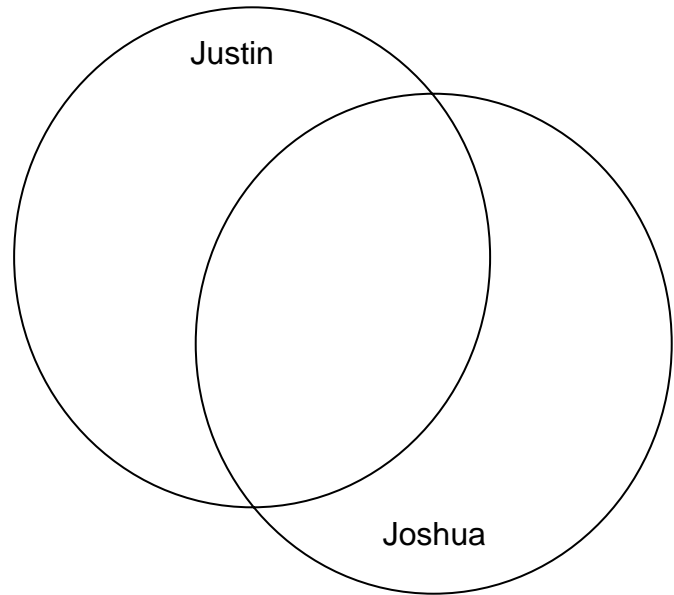
The beds were made out of pure stone. The toilets....you don't want to know. All of the nonliving plants were pure black. I finally blinked and tears came pouring out. My dad took me out on a hike to let me cool down, but it didn't work. I suffered in that cave my dad called a house for a month.

What's **voice** in writing?

It might be:

- Humor or sarcasm
- Point-of-view
- Passion or emotion
- Mood or tone
- Persuasive techniques
- Other stylistic writing techniques

Talk with a writing partner. Compare and contrast the **voice** techniques used by Justin and Joshua in their two different setting descriptions. Use this Venn diagram to record your ideas about how Justin and Joshua used similar and different **voice** techniques.



The Mars Rover

by Joshua M., fifth grade writer

This planet has never been stepped on or known to have any life. No working probe has reached this world. Almost no one knew anything of the Red Planet until now.

If you were on Mars in the year of 2003, you could look up into the atmosphere and see an object parachuting down to you, even though nothing lives on Mars. The object was a space rover wrapped in a mechanical ball. When it unfolded, NASA had to direct it down the ramp. There was a big problem. The rover was too big and it wasn't facing the ramp. Finally, it made it down safe.

This was one small roll for the rover but one big step for mankind.

