Read the passage. Use the summarize strategy to make sure you understand what you read.

**Otomo Otomo Spins Gold**

It is not easy to be a Japanese gnome. Nothing in the world is made to fit my size. That’s one problem. Another problem is that everyone thinks that I am bad. Sometimes I play tricks on people. But that is rarely the case. I’ll tell you a story and then you can decide for yourself.

I was out for a walk, looking at the scenery. I heard the unmistakable sound of a young woman crying. I climbed up the wall to the window. She told me that she had a big problem. She needed to use a spinning wheel to turn a bale of hay into string made of gold. It needed to happen every night for five nights. If she could not a rich king would make her leave the kingdom.

Spinning straw into gold is my specialty, so we made a deal. I’d spin gold for her, and all she had to do was guess my name. (It is Otomo Otomo.) She got three chances every night. If she couldn’t guess it, then she would come to live with me and my sisters. It seemed like a good deal to me. She seemed confident, so I shook her hand. Then I took the straw to my house.
The next night, I brought her gold. She was overjoyed. She made bad guesses at my name. They were Norman, Takemura, and Pete. I thought it would be very nice to have someone tall around. She could clean the top of my bookshelf.

The next three nights happened the same way. I took her straw home. I sat and sang my spinning songs, I made her gold and brought it back. Each night she made uninformed guesses at my name. They were hard to hear, since they were so bad.

On the last night, I came back with the gold. She looked less defeated. She almost looked relieved. I started to get nervous. I put the gold down and asked, “What is my name?” She made her first two guesses: Roy and Yoshida. My tiny heart jumped. I thought she would come home with me. But then she smiled and said, “Otomo Otomo. That is your name.”

I asked her how she knew my name. She told me that she heard me singing my songs the night before. My spinning songs all have my name in them. So I went home alone. You see? I am not cruel or mean. We made a deal and it ended badly for me. Someone will always need my help. But there is always a price. Do you need anything?
A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.

1. A character often has a point of view, or perspective, about events or other characters in a story. In the first paragraph, what is Otomo Otomo’s point of view about himself?

2. In paragraph 3, what is Otomo Otomo’s point of view about his deal?

3. Has Otomo Otomo’s point of view changed about his deal at the end in the last paragraph? Explain.

B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to intonation. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.

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