

STUDENT ACTIVITY 2: Experiencing the Narrator and Ostrich 12B's perspective

"I am assuming all of these things, of course. I cannot delve into the mind of an ostrich. If one were able to do just that, I am sure this account would be very different."

In this story, the narrator often imagines the thoughts, feelings, and emotions of Ostrich 12B as it escaped from the van it was transported in, all the way to the fateful moment of its demise at the hands of the animal control team. It is important to note that our experience of Ostrich 12B's perspective is always coloured by the narrator, who is the one who attempts to imagine and reconstruct the truth of Ostrich 12B's last moments.

Question 1: From the Web Developer's Perspective

Having read the story on the microsite, how do you think the web developers have distinguished the point of view of the narrator and Ostrich 12B throughout the story?

Optional: If you have the original printed text of the story, you can further consider how the web developers and the author distinguish between these two points of view.

Question 2: Narrator

After reading the story on the microsite, answer the following questions about the narrator:

- a. **Who is the narrator?** Support your answer with evidence from the story.
- b. **Why do you think the narrator wrote this story?** Support your response with at least two pieces of evidence.
- c. **Pick two examples of the narrator's self-aware reflections on reconstructing this account of Ostrich 12B. What kind of impression is the narrator trying to create of himself to the reader?**

Tip: Pay attention to the narrator's personal commentary throughout his reimagining of Ostrich 12B's escape, and his own reflections about his role in its death and the aftermath.

Question 3: Ostrich 12B

After reading the story on the microsite, answer the following questions about Ostrich 12B:

- a. **How do your feelings for Ostrich 12B change over the course of the story? Explain why you feel that way.** Offer at least two to three points and support them with evidence.