



Point of View

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The Viewpoint of the Story

Dialogue

When characters
speak

Narration

When the narrator
speaks

First Person

- *Narrator is one of the characters from the story*
 - *Key words: I, me, my, we*



First Person Example

Beautiful Redemption by Kami Garcia & Margaret Stohl

- A glass of chocolate milk doesn't seem like enough, but it isn't really the milk, and we all know that--all of us here anyway. Because the moonlight shimmers in the empty wooden chairs around me, and I know, as always, that I am not alone.

Second Person

- *Narrator tells the story and addresses the reader*
 - *Not as common*
 - *Key words: you, your*



Second Person Example

How to Babysit a Grandpa by Jean Reagan

- Babysitting a grandpa is fun - if you know how. When your grandpa rings the doorbell, what should you do? Hide! You might wiggle and want to giggle. But don't yell, "Grandpa!" Not yet. Shhhhhh.

Third Person Point of View

The narrator is
outside of the story



3 Different Types

Third Person Omniscient

- *The narrator tells the story and reveals two or more characters' thoughts or feelings*
 - *Omniscient = All Knowing*
 - *Key words: He, She, They, etc.*



Third Person Omniscient Example

Chris had liked Emma since the third-grade. Little did he know that Emma liked him too. They both admired one another from afar, and waited. One day, Chris said to Emma, “So...you want to go out with me?” Emma felt her stomach sink. She couldn’t believe it. Blushing, she said, “Okay.” Chris smiled.

Third Person Limited

- *The narrator tells the story and reveals one character's thoughts and feelings*
- *Key words: He, She, They, etc.*



Third Person Limited Example

Chris had liked Emma since the third-grade, but he had never found the nerve to tell her. Once sunny day, Chris said to Emma, “So...you want to go out with me?” Emma blushed and said, “Okay.” Chris smiled.

Third Person Objective

- *The narrator tells the story and does not reveal any characters' thoughts.*
- *Key words: He, She, They, etc.*



Third Person Objective Example

Chris slowly walked up to Emma with his hands behind his back. “So...you want to go out with me,” he said nervously. Emma blushed. “Okay.” Chris smiled.



How to find the point of view

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*Focus on
narration, not
dialogue!*

“

*Ask whose story
the narrator is
telling.*

“

*See if it is first
or second before
looking at third.*



Let's
Practice!



The birds were chirping and the sun was shining. Kevin and Juno were sitting on a park bench together. Neither of them was smiling. After a long period of silence, Kevin said, "This isn't going to work. I mean, you're a dog person and I'm a cat person." Juno nodded. A tear rolled down her face. Kevin went on, "If we got married and bought a house, what kind of pet would we get? Some kind of cat-dog? Somebody's going to be unhappy." Juno began sobbing and said, "Ok, let's just end it now. Have fun with your slobbery dogs." She jumped off the bench and ran into the woods.

Third Person Objective



The dew on the grass made my running shoes damp. It didn't bother me. The sound of my feet hitting the street formed a rhythm, a steady pattern of light thumps. I timed my breathing with the rhythm. These sounds filled my head. I thought of nothing other than the next step and keeping my tempo. I soared over the sidewalks like concrete clouds.

First Person



Red looked across the prairie. He didn't see anything concerning. He wondered why Texas Joe had hollered like that. Texas Joe turned to him. The ghost that Texas Joe had just seen was gone. Texas Joe swatted at the air. Now he felt crazy. "You have to believe me, Red. It was just here," said Texas Joe. Red scowled at him in disbelief. "What was just here, Joe?" he asked. Red was angry with Texas Joe for disturbing his sleep for no apparent reason.

Third-Person Omniscient

If you are confused about something in class, don't wait. Raise your hand and ask for help immediately.

Do it while your teacher is still explaining the material. Your teacher will probably be happy that you are taking an active part in your education and should attempt to explain the material in a different way. If you are still confused, ask your teacher if he or she is available after class to give you additional instruction. You are worth it. Don't give up on yourself.

Second Person



Jeremiah squinted from the sun. He was thinking about the game. They could have won. He could have won the game for them. All he needed to do was catch the ball, but he didn't. He dropped it. His coach talked to him. "Jeremiah, we had a great season. Nobody's perfect. Look at me. Ha ha," he said. Jeremiah smiled at the coach, but he couldn't forgive himself so easily.

Third-Person Limited



Suzie applied the lipstick to her lips. She had never done this before. She smacked her lips like she had seen other women do in the movies and looked in the mirror. She felt unsure about what she saw. She turned to her friend Donna and asked, "How do I look?" Donna gasped and said, "You look breathtaking, Suzie." Suzie smiled. She was grateful for these words, even though she didn't believe them.

Third-Person Limited



April opened the escape hatch. She was afraid to jump, but she realized that the airship was sinking. She looked at Vince, who was strapping on his parachute. Vince locked eyes with her and then he realized the error in his conduct. "I'm sorry, April. That was ungentlemanly of me. Let me help you with yours." He proceeded to attach the other parachute to April's back. This made him feel a little better.

Third-Person Omniscient



The parade marched down the street. It was led by a caped drummer. He set a stately pace and tapped the accompanying rhythm. A marching band followed behind him, matching his pace. Behind the band were floats of all sizes and designs. Children and adults were riding on the floats, tossing out penny candies, streamers, and plastic prizes. The street was lined with people. The noises of revelry filled the streets.

Third-Person Objective

The bell rang. "Oh no! I'm going to be late for science! I've got to go," said Cassie to her friend Tom. Tom rolled his eyes and said, "Little Miss Perfect can't be late." This upset Cassie. She hated when people gave her a hard time for trying to do the right thing, especially Tom. "Quiet you," she said while swinging at Tom with her folder. He narrowly dodged the strike and said, "Be careful now. Attacking another student is a level two offense." Then he smiled a big, cheesy grin at her.

Third-Person Limited