

Narrator and Point of View

In literature the point of view is the story from one person's perspective. A trick is to ask, "Who is talking?" In other words, who is the **narrator**? The narrator is the person who is telling the story. There are two main types of narrators: first person and third person.

If the author is using first person narration, the narrator is a main character and uses I, me, my when speaking.

In third person narration the narrator uses *he, she, it* or *they*. The words *I* and *me* are used only in dialogue.

Below are passages from books. Read them and write what type of narration is being used: first person or third person.

1) The old lady pulled her spectacles down and looked over them, about the room; then she put them up and looked out under them.

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The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Mark Twain

2) Coraline discovered the door a little while after they moved into the house. It was a very old house -- it had an attic under the roof and a cellar under the ground and an overgrown garden with huge old trees in it.

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Coraline, G.K. Chesterton

3) The thing is, my luck's always been rotten. Just look at my name: Jean. Not Jean Marie, or Jeanine, or Jeanette, or even Jeanne. Just Jean. Did you know in France, they name boys Jean? It's French for John.

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Jinx, Meg Cabot

4) When my brother Fudge was five, he discovered money in a big way. "Hey, Pete," he said one night as I was getting out of the shower. "How much would it cost to buy New York?"

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Double Fudge, Judy Blume

5) I forgot to tell you about that. They kicked me out. I wasn't supposed to come back after Christmas vacation, on account of I was flunking four subjects and not applying myself and all.

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The Catcher in the Rye, J.D. Salinger

