

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.

Third person

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.

Third person

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.

First person

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?"

First person

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.

First person

The Catcher in the Rye, J.D. Salinger

