

# Point of View



# Point of View

The point of view of a story is the perspective from which the story is told.

There are three main types:

- First person
- Second person
- Third person



# First Person

A character in the story tells the story from his or her point of view.

You see the story 'through their eyes'.

You will read words like 'I', 'we' or 'me' in the story.

All week long, **I** was excited about the weekend. My mother and **I** were taking a road trip to the beach. **We** had been planning it for months. She wanted to surprise **me** at first, but **I** figured it out.



# Second Person

The narrator addresses you, the reader, in the text.

This might be in an informative or 'how-to' writing piece.

The author will use words like 'you', 'you'll', 'you're' and 'your' and 'yours'.

## How To Make a Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich

So, **you're** ready to make **your** first peanut butter and jelly sandwich! First, **you** lay two pieces of bread on the table. Then **you** use a knife to spread peanut butter on one slice of the bread. Next, **you'll** use a knife to spread jelly on the other slice of bread. Finally, **you** will stick the peanut butter and jelly together. Now it is **yours** to enjoy!





# Third Person

The narrator, or person telling the story, is not a character in the story. Author will use character's names, or words like 'he', 'she' and 'they'.

## Third Person Limited

The narrator in the story knows the thoughts and feelings of only **ONE** character in the story.

Ex: Haley looked up as Juan walked in the room. She noticed that his face looked sad, and wondered to herself what was making him feel so upset. She decided to go talk to him.

## Third Person Omniscient

The narrator knows the thoughts and feelings of **ALL** characters in the story.

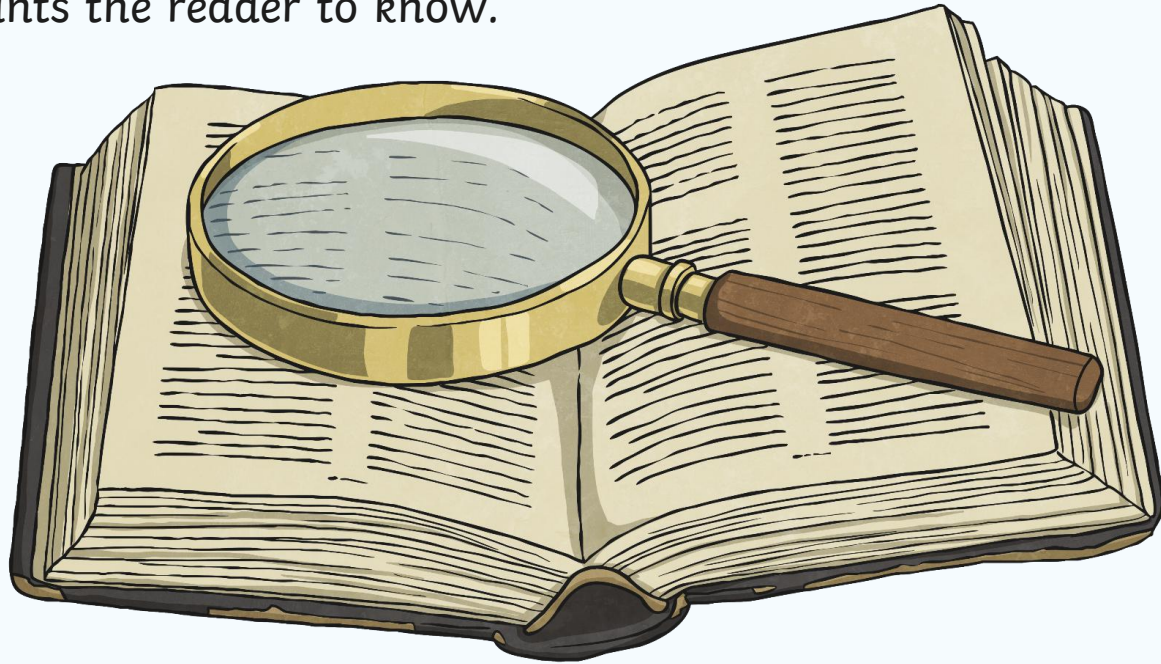
Ex: Haley looked up as Juan walked in the room. She wondered why he had a sad look on his face. Juan couldn't even make eye contact with her. He was so distraught after his puppy we went missing. He didn't think he would ever be happy again until he found his puppy.



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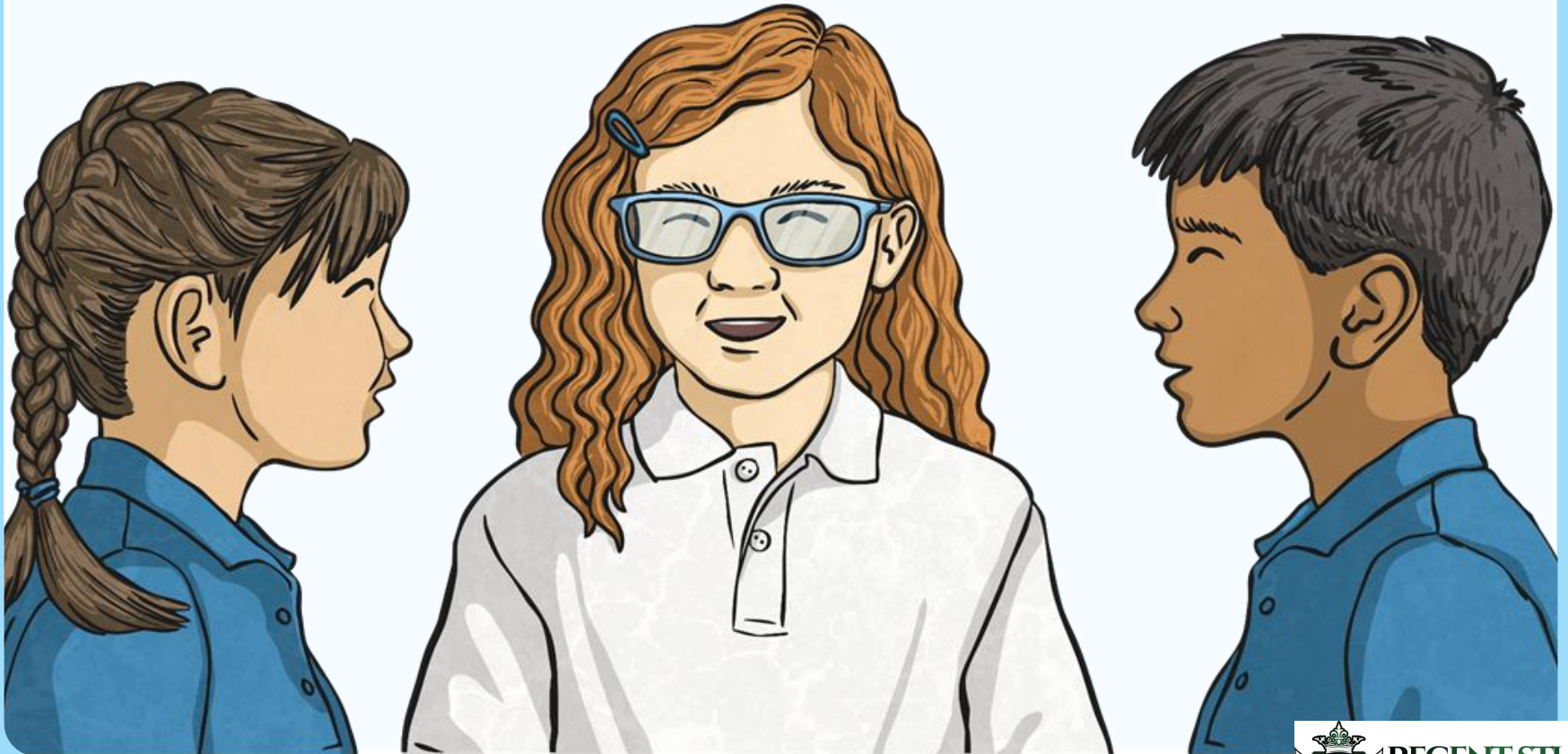
When an author begins writing a story, he/she will choose which point of view to tell the story from.

This decision is based on the plot of the story and the information the author wants the reader to know.



# Think, Pair, Share

Why might the author choose 3<sup>rd</sup> person omniscient over 1<sup>st</sup> person?



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