

Perspective

Perspective	What Is It?	What Does It Sound Like?	Why Choose It?	Why Skip It?
First person	Taking on the perspective of a character, often the main character, and telling the story through his or her eyes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I sat in the room, feeling nervous. • My mother was mad. • “Grow up!” I yelled. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It can help make the reader feel closer to the story. • It can be easier to describe thoughts and feelings of the character whose perspective is being written from. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It can be challenging to show other characters’ thoughts and feelings. • The author can’t include moments the narrator is not present for.
Second person	Writing as if the reader is someone the author knows and is telling the story directly to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You sat in the room, feeling nervous. • Your mother was mad. • “Grow up!” you yelled. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It can help readers feel as if they are part of the story. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It can be hard to make the story believable (because the reader isn’t really experiencing it).
Third person	Writing from an outside narrator’s perspective; can be focused on one character or many	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She sat in the room, feeling nervous. • His mother was mad. • “Grow up!” Lisa yelled. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It can help make the story seem more objective because the narrator is not in the story. • It can allow the author to show the stories of more than one character or situation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It can distance the narrator and reader from the character. • Delving into character thoughts and feelings can be more challenging than in first person.