Narrative Point-of-View

First Person & Third Person
What are pronouns?

• Words that replace nouns so you don’t repeat
  • Mrs. West woke up. Mrs. West ate breakfast. Mrs. West drove to school. Mrs. West taught all day. Mrs. West…
  • Mrs. West woke up. She ate breakfast. She got in her car and drove to school. Mrs. West taught all day. She was tired at the end of the day.

• The words help make it clear who a story is about

Let’s learn some common subject pronouns together: Subject Pronouns
Know your persons!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>FIRST PERSON PRONOUNS</strong></th>
<th><strong>THIRD PERSON PRONOUNS</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subject</strong></td>
<td>I</td>
<td>we</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1+ (plural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Object</strong></td>
<td>me</td>
<td>us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 (singular)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Possessive</strong></td>
<td>my, mine</td>
<td>our, ours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1+ (plural)</td>
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</tbody>
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### Common Narrative Pronouns

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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Object</th>
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**Sources:**
- [http://www.chompchomp.com/presentations/capitalization.ppt](http://www.chompchomp.com/presentations/capitalization.ppt)
Common Narrative Pronouns

**First Person**
- You are telling the story. You are the narrator.
- The experiences happened to you and the people around you.
- Used in personal narratives and autobiographies

**Third Person**
- Another person tells the story. Someone else is the narrator.
- The third-person narrator is sometimes in the story, but not always.
- Used in fictional narratives

Source: Grammar Bytes <http://www.chompchomp.com/presentations/capitalization.ppt>
Narrator - The person who tells the story

Narrative - The story the narrator tells

Characters - Everyone else in a story

What’s the narrator’s position in the story?
Or, what is the narrator’s POINT OF VIEW.

**First-Person Narration** - The narrator is involved in the action of the story.

First-Person Narratives

A story told in the first person tells “me” or “my” story.

Example

I went to the store with my friend. The clerk said, “Hi, Nina!” We bought candy and left. My gummy worms were delicious! I ate them all myself.

Who is telling the story?

In First-Person narratives the narrator, or person telling the story is “I” or “we.”

Third-Person Narration - The narrator is outside of the story.

Third-Person Narratives

• Tells another person’s story or “his” or “her” story.
• Calls characters by name

Example

Chris loved basketball. Everyday he played after school. When it got dark, he watched it on TV.

From whose perspective is the story told?

In Third-Person the perspective of “he” or “she” is narrated.
Remember!

The Story

“I”
First-Person

“He” & “She”
Third-Person

“l” am the **first-person** in the story.

“He” and “she” are the **third**.

Practice

I will read five short texts. You and a partner will try to tell if the narrator’s perspective is first or third-person in each text.

1. ___________________________________

2. ___________________________________

3. ___________________________________

4. ___________________________________

5. ___________________________________

Tom went to the library to get a new book. He browsed the rows and rows of books. He liked reading mysteries and pretending he was a detective in the story. He spotted a new mystery book on the shelf. Instantly, he knew he had to read the book.
Nathan walked into the salon, and rested his fingers on the trunk.

When he was younger, Mama had made him promise he would never go near it. He was taller now and strong enough to open the lid. With care, he raised the lid and lifted out the package.
I didn’t want my sister to know about the surprise party I was planning for her. I had to remind everyone not to say a word to my sister about the party. On the day of the party, I asked my mom to take my sister shopping so that I could decorate the house.
4. - First or Third Person?

Last night, I lay in bed awake. I could not sleep because I was so excited. I tried to sleep but every time I closed my eyes all I could think about was the concert. After I have waited for so long, I am finally going to get to see my favorite band in concert.
In his lifetime, Genghis Khan conquered 3,000 miles of land.

He was khan — or leader — of millions of people. He was the most feared man in the world. Yet for centuries his life was a mystery.
After that, his daughter, my mother, fell in love with my father. They married and I was born later. When I was growing up, Grandfather told me all about California and wanted to bring me to visit, but there was a war. The war and his old age prevented him from visiting California ever again.

Later, when I was grown, I went to see California for myself. There were majestic palm trees, crashing waves and the rough coast grandfather told me about. I loved it as much as my grandfather had loved it. I missed home in Japan and went back.

Finally, I understand why grandfather had such strong and deep feelings for both Japan and the United States. I can now understand how and why a person can live in one place, but dream of another.

First or Third Person?

How do we change the pronouns so YOU are retelling the story?
Retell a classmate’s blog/narrative

1. Take a printed copy of a classmate’s blog
2. Names have been erased
3. The blog is written as a first person narrative, using first person pronouns
4. You need to retell it as a THIRD person narrative. How are you going to do that? What do you need to do with the pronouns?
5. Rewrite it and then retell it for the class.