

# SMART™ Lesson

## Understanding Literature: Analyzing Point of View

When reading literature, it's important to pay attention to the point of view of the narrator or main character. Point of view refers to the perspective from which the story is being told.

### Types of Point of View

There are three main types of point of view:

- **First person point of view:** This is when the narrator is a character in the story and refers to themselves as "I".
- **Second person point of view:** This is when the narrator refers to the reader as "you". Second person point of view is rare in literature and is mostly used in instructional writing.
- **Third person point of view:** This is when the narrator is not a character in the story and refers to the characters as "he", "she", or "they".

### Importance of Point of View

The point of view of a story can affect how the reader interprets and understands the events and characters in the story. It can also affect the tone and mood of the story.

For example, a story told in first person point of view can create a sense of intimacy and immediacy, as the reader feels like they are experiencing the events alongside the narrator. On the other hand, a story told in third person point of view can create a sense of distance and objectivity, as the narrator is not a character in the story and can provide a more objective view of the events and characters.

### Practice Questions

1. What are the three main types of point of view in literature?
2. Which point of view is the most common in literature?
3. How does first person point of view affect the reader's experience of a story?
4. How does third person point of view differ from first person point of view?
5. Why is it important to pay attention to the point of view when analyzing literature?