SMART™ Lesson

Point of View in Fiction

Point of view refers to the perspective from which a story is told. Understanding point of view is important for understanding the story and the characters in it. There are three main types of point of view:

First Person Point of View

In first person point of view, the story is told from the perspective of one of the characters in the story. The reader sees everything through the eyes of that character, and experiences things only as that character experiences them. First person point of view is often used in memoirs or autobiographies, but can also be used in fiction.

Second Person Point of View

In second person point of view, the story is told from the perspective of the reader. This is a less common point of view and is often used for interactive or instructional purposes, such as in a recipe or a choose-your-own-adventure book.

Third Person Point of View

In third person point of view, the story is told from the perspective of an outside narrator. This narrator is not a character in the story, but rather an observer of the events. Third person point of view is the most common point of view used in fiction.

Examples

Let's look at some examples of the different types of point of view:

- First person point of view: "I walked down the street and saw a dog chasing a squirrel."
- Second person point of view: "You walk down the street and see a dog chasing a squirrel."
- Third person point of view: "He walked down the street and saw a dog chasing a squirrel."

Quiz

Now it's time to test your knowledge! Choose the correct point of view for each sentence:

1. "She looked out the window and saw the rain starting to fall."

- ○First person
- ○Second person
- ○Third person

2. "You walk into the dark, creepy house."
   - ○First person
   - ○Second person
   - ○Third person

3. "They sat on the beach and watched the waves crashing."
   - ○First person
   - ○Second person
   - ○Third person

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