

Worksheet One

This worksheet accompanies *First Second and Third Person*.

First, second or third person?

How much have you learned about narrative perspective?

Read each of the following extracts and decide whether it is written in the first, second or third person. Circle the correct answer.

For a moment the Canterville ghost stood quite motionless in natural indignation; then, dashing the bottle violently upon the polished floor, he fled down the corridor, uttering hollow groans, and emitting a ghastly green light.

The Canterville Ghost, Oscar Wilde

First person

Second person

Third person

She gave my mother such a turn, that I have always been convinced I am indebted to Miss Betsey for having been born on a Friday.

David Copperfield, Charles Dickens

First person

Second person

Third person

Anne felt an instant oppression, and wherever she looked saw symptoms of the same. The comfort, the freedom, the gaiety of the room was over, hushed into cold composure, determined silence, or insipid talk, to meet the heartless elegance of her father and sister.

Persuasion, Jane Austen

First person

Second person

Third person



For morning calls, it is well to be neatly attired; for a costume very different to that you generally wear, or anything approaching an evening dress, will be very much out of place.

The Book of Household Management, Mrs. Isabella Beeton

First person

Second person

Third person

I left the room, and, locking the door, made a solemn vow in my own heart never to resume my labours; and then, with trembling steps, I sought my own apartment.

Frankenstein, Mary Shelley

First person

Second person

Third person

