

Writing Challenge – Point of View

First, second, and third person are ways of describing points of view.

- ❖ **First person** is the **I/we** perspective.
- ❖ **Second person** is the **you** perspective.
- ❖ **Third person** is the **he/she/it/they** perspective.

If **first person** is someone telling you his or her story (therefore more autobiographical), and **second person** is you being told how you should do something, then **third person** is more like a camera recording events (like a narrator). That's not to say it's necessarily an objective point of view. A **third person** narrator can be highly subjective.

For more information, take a look at:

<https://www.grammarly.com/blog/first-second-and-third-person/>

Spend 15 minutes on each exercise:

You're on a train heading home from London during the early hours. You're alone in the carriage when a stranger gets onto the train and sits further down the carriage. They take out their phone, call someone and you overhear a conversation which frightens you.

Exercise 1

Describe the scene and what happens next from your point of view as if you are telling the story. (1st person)

Exercise 2

Describe the same scene and what happens next as if you are a narrator (3rd person)

Things to Consider:

- ❖ Use of the words **I/we** and **he/she/it/they**

- ❖ Tense
- ❖ Verbs
- ❖ Which point of view do you find it easier to write in?
- ❖ Did you switch between points of view in the same text?
- ❖ How did it change dialogue?

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