

Point of View

Use the text to answer each question below.

1. When a writer begins a new story, she must decide who will tell the story. **Point of view** is who tells the story, or the “voice” that the story is told in. It’s the place from which a narrator sees and understands what is happening.

Read the following passage.

“We’re going to put on a play, Miriam!” Zakir announced, waving his hands in my face. I immediately began to think of what part I’d like to play. I thought at first I’d like to play a witch or a goblin—I’d been working for weeks on an eerie, low-sounding screech that I was sure would steal the show. But I knew Zakir was secretly afraid of things like that—he’d never agree to a play about the occult. And, I remembered, the only audience for the play was our father, and he would quietly reprimand me for being insensitive to my brother’s phobias. I could already hear his gentle scolding. “Don’t tease him, Miriam,” he would say. I thought of playing a queen, but maybe there wouldn’t be enough to do with that part. Our little sister, Dinah, would probably insist on wearing the house’s toy crown, too. I looked around our living room, spying a pair of green tights doubled down between the couch cushions. A wrestler? Maybe.

What point of view is this passage written in?

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| A. third person limited | B. third person omniscient |
| C. second person | D. first person |
2. In the first **person point of view**, the narrator is telling a story and is a character in the story. He or she is directly involved in the events that happen. First person narration often uses the pronoun “I”.

Read the following passage.

The carousel lurched into life, its jarringly sweet song abruptly sounding through the nearly empty park. A flock of birds startled and scattered across the sky. I called out, “Whoops, sorry!” to the few families waiting for a turn. “You’ve got to be kidding me,” one of the fathers sighed, leading his son away from the creaky ride.

Which detail from the text best indicates that this story is told in the first person?

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| A. “You’ve got to be kidding me!” | B. “The carousel lurched into life...” |
| C. “I called out, ‘Whoops, sorry!’” | D. “A flock of birds startled...” |