

# 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?

- 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?

- 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...”