**Point of view**

Point of view refers to **who** is telling the story. Writers use point of view to express the personal emotions of either themselves or their characters. When writing or narrating your story, you should use the point of view that has the most impact for the reader.

There are three main types of Point of View:

1. First person
2. Second person
3. Third person

**First person**

First person point of view is when the main character is telling the story. Readers will see ‘I did this’ or ‘we did that’ in the narrative. The singular form uses I, me or my, the plural form uses ‘we’ or ‘us’ or ‘our’.

*Examples***:**

‘I went to the beach and brought along my umbrella and sunscreen.’

‘We went to the beach and we brought along our umbrella’s and sunscreen.’

‘Looking out over the ocean, I saw dolphins playing in the waves.’

**Second person**

When you write from a second person point of view the writer has the narrator speaking to the reader. Readers will see ‘you’, ‘your’ and ‘yours’ in the narrative.

*Examples***:**

‘For the low price of 99 cents you could be the proud owner of your own pencil sharpener!’

‘You are alone on a deserted island and all you have for shelter are palm leaves.’

‘If you feel sick, you should go and see a doctor.’

**Third person**

Third person point of view is when an external narrator tells the story. This perspective can be singular, plural as well as gender specific or gender neutral. Readers will see words like ‘he’, ‘she’, ‘it’ or ‘they’ in the narrative. There are three types of third person points of view

1. **Omniscient:** When the narrator has insights into what ALL characters are thinking and doing. **For example:** Jody was looking forward to a ‘girls night out’ but her other friends were hoping it would be cancelled.
2. **Multiple:** when the narrator knows the thoughts, motivations and actions of more than one character in the story but doesn’t share that level of insight with all characters. **For example:** Andrew knew how much Ryan wanted to go to the football match, but Ryan decided to put work first.
3. **Limited:** when the narrator only has insight into ONE character’s thought processes. **For example:** Amy heard a loud crash and she was so scared she didn’t know what to do.