

## Types of narrator

All novels have a narrator of some sort: someone who tells the story. It is important to explore the different types of narrator and the reasons behind an author's choice because it usually has an impact on the narrative and the way in which we view what is written.

- Firstly, decide which of the styles of narration on the left go with the definitions on the right by drawing lines to match them up:

Type of narrator	Definition
First person	A character within the story relays what happens although they are not necessarily central to the events.
Third person	The narrator relays only what is experienced by a character's mind. The voice of the prose might seem disjointed as conversations are interrupted by the character's thoughts and opinions of those around them or even distracted by completely irrelevant thoughts.
Omniscient	The reader is told the story from different viewpoints through the novel with a voice guiding them as to the 'truth'.
Unreliable	The telling of a story from the perspective of 'I'; the protagonist of the story relays what happens to them.
Multiple	A narrator who tells the story from a biased perspective and is not necessarily trust-worthy in what they relay to the reader.
Stream of consciousness	The narrator knows everything about the story and characters and 'speaks' with absolute knowledge of everything that has occurred. The truth of what is written cannot be questioned.

- Now, thinking about books you have read recently, decide which type of narrator each has and discuss with a partner the impact that each narrative style has.
- In pairs do some research and find examples of each of these types of narrative voice.
- Prepare a presentation for the rest of the class on the different styles and why authors might pick a particular type of voice.