



Point of View in *Mexican Gothic*





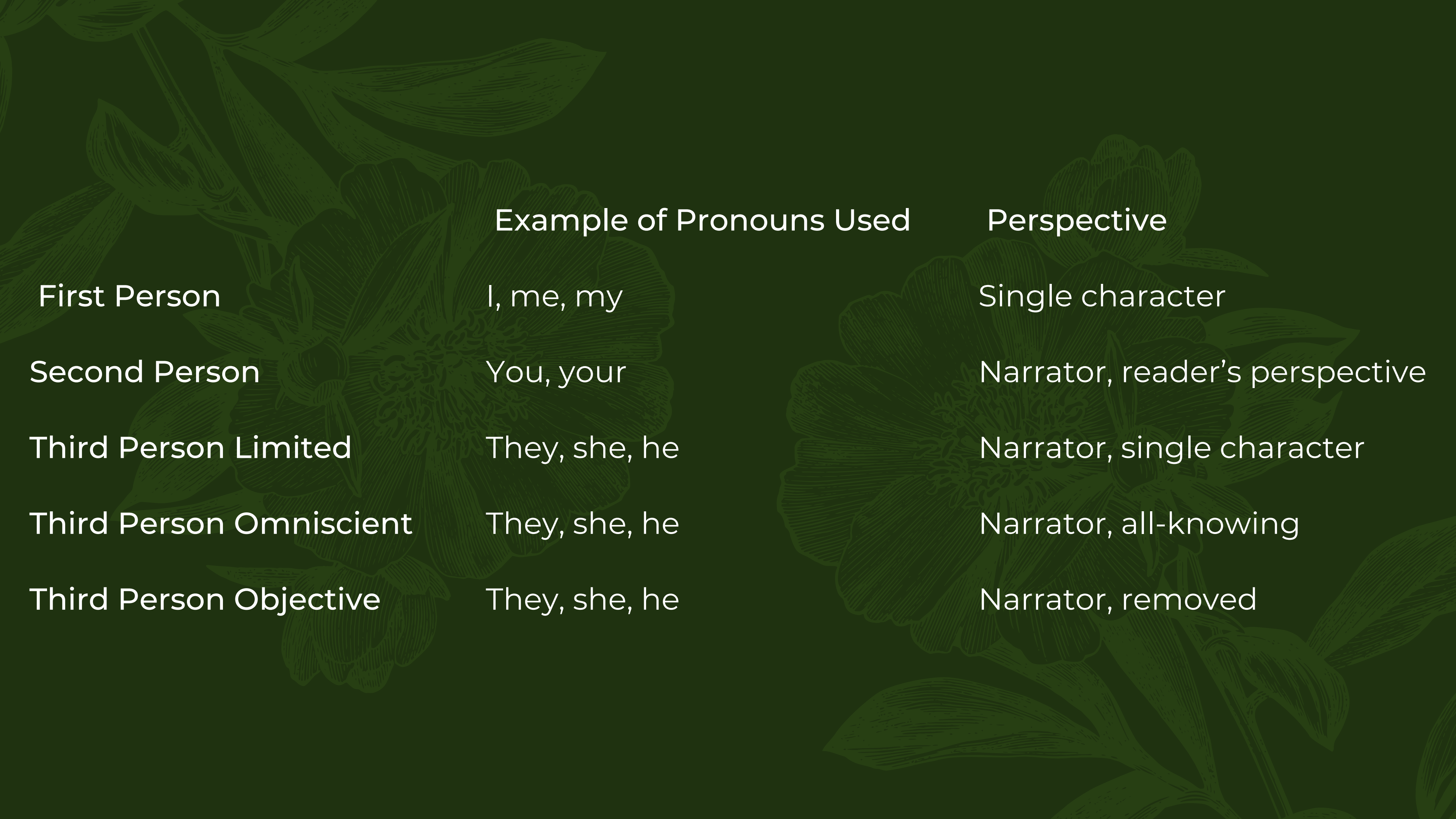
What is point of view?

A detailed botanical illustration in a light tan color, featuring a branch with several leaves and small, five-petaled flowers. The branch enters from the top right and extends towards the center, with another branch entering from the bottom left and extending towards the center. The leaves are elongated with serrated edges, and the flowers have prominent centers.

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The position a
narrator uses to tell
a story

Essential Literary Terms



	Example of Pronouns Used	Perspective
First Person	I, me, my	Single character
Second Person	You, your	Narrator, reader's perspective
Third Person Limited	They, she, he	Narrator, single character
Third Person Omniscient	They, she, he	Narrator, all-knowing
Third Person Objective	They, she, he	Narrator, removed



From which point of view is
Mexican Gothic written?



Third person limited (Noemí)

mostly!



Point of view can affect...

- the roles characters play in a plot
- the pace at which the narrative proceeds
- the setting in which the story takes place
- characterization
- themes that emerge
- the use of dialogue
- structure
- the tone the text conveys
- the authorial voice implied by these choices



Don't believe it?
Let's experiment!

"Oh, I could kiss you, I'm so happy to see you," she said merrily.

He blushed as red as a pomegranate, which was not becoming and was also, frankly, a little funny because he was a bit older than her, a man made. If anyone should play the bashful maid, it should be her. Then again she supposed there weren't many young women fawning over Francis in this place.

She figured if she ever got him to a party in Mexico City he should be utterly thrilled or petrified, only one of two extremes.

"I'm not sure I've done anything to deserve that," he said, half mumbling the words.

First Person (Francis)



Second Person



Third Person Limited (Francis)



Third Person Omniscient



Third Person Objective

