

Exercise walk-through

Identifying the narrator or speaker ■ 4.8

eXercise

You must be able to

- state the CED's claim about narrators as characters
- name the two things such a narrator may do with events
- explain what direct address to readers does
- distinguish recalling from describing as they occur

Method — The claim

Narrators may function as characters in the narrative who directly address readers and either recall events or describe them as they occur.

Method — Two modes

Recall puts the narrator after the events, knowing how they turned out. **Describing as they occur** puts them inside, not knowing. The choice governs what the narrator can say.

Method — Direct address

Addressing the reader creates the relationship 1.5 described. A narrator who says “you will think me foolish” is managing the reader’s judgment in advance.

Method — Why the distinction matters

A recalling narrator may withhold what they later learned, and the withholding is a choice the analysis can name. A narrator describing events as they occur cannot withhold what they do not yet know.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State the CED's claim about narrators as characters.

Solution 2.1

Method: The claim

Worked steps

narrators may function as characters who directly address readers **B1** and either recall events or describe them as they occur **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Distinguish recalling from describing as events occur.

Solution 2.2

Method: Why the distinction matters

Worked steps

recall places the narrator after the events knowing the outcome **B1**; describing as they occur places them inside, without that knowledge **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

The choice governs what a narrator can say.

- (a) Explain the difference in what each can withhold.
- (b) State what direct address does.

Solution 2.3

Worked steps

(a) a recalling narrator may withhold what they later learned **B1**; one describing events as they occur cannot withhold what they do not yet know **B1**. (b) it establishes a relationship between the text and the reader **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

A narrator who recalls events

A knows how they turned out

B cannot know the outcome

C is never a character

D is the author

Solution 3.1

A knows how they turned out



B cannot know the outcome

C is never a character

D is the author

Worked steps

A. recall implies hindsight.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Direct address to readers

- A** establishes a relationship with the reader
- B** changes the setting
- C** ends the plot
- D** removes the narrator

Solution 3.2

A establishes a relationship with the reader



B changes the setting

C ends the plot

D removes the narrator

Worked steps

A. it establishes the relationship.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A narrator says “I did not yet know what this would cost me.”

- (a) State which mode this is.
- (b) Explain what the sentence does to the reader.

Solution 3.3

Method: Direct address

Worked steps

(a) recall **B1**. (b) it announces that a cost is coming **B1**, so the reader now reads the following events looking for it **B1**.