

English 10
Sense and Sensibility
Readings 1 and 2: Point of view

For your assigned passage please examine how the point of view influences your reading of the novel. The novel uses a third-person omniscient narrator—the narrator says “he” or “she” most of the time rather than “I,” and the narrator has access to the thoughts of multiple characters.

All of these sentences are spoken by the narrator—some reveal judgments about characters; some convey verbal texture that contributes to a light, comic effect.

Look up your assigned sentence in your book in order to be able to contextualize it. To explore point of view, you are, for your particular sentence, to examine any of the following that apply:

narrative distance	litotes	understatement	overstatement
verbal irony	parallel structures	antithesis	diction
repetition	indirect dialogue		

We have talked about all of these devices at different times; feel free to look up the devices themselves in *Perrine* or elsewhere to refresh your understanding of them.

Write a paragraph of 6-7 sentences in which you make a claim for the purpose or effect of the sentence and then support your claim using any of the devices above or any other techniques you see deployed in the sentence.

1. The family of Dashwood had been long settled in Sussex (5). (Abigail)
2. The old Gentleman died; his will was read, and like almost every other will, gave as much disappointment as pleasure (6). (Gabby)
3. He was not an ill-disposed young man, unless to be rather cold hearted, and rather selfish, is to be ill disposed (7). (Nadia)
4. So acutely did Mrs. Dashwood feel this ungracious behaviour, and so earnestly did she despise her daughter-in-law for it, that, on the arrival of the latter, she would have quitted the house for ever, had not the entreaty of her eldest girl induced her first to reflect on the propriety of going, and her own tender love for all her three children determined her afterwards to stay, and for their sakes avoid a breach with their brother (8). (Izzy)
5. It was very well known, that no affection was ever supposed to exist between the children of any man by different marriages; and why was he to ruin himself, and their poor little Harry, by giving away all his money to his half sisters? (11). (Elif)

6. But he was neither fitted by abilities nor disposition to answer the wishes of his mother and sister, who longed to see him distinguished—as—they hardly knew what (17). (Lucia)

7. Marianne was afraid of offending, and said no more on the subject; but the kind of approbation which Elinor described as excited in him by the drawings of other people, was far from that rapturous delight, which, in her opinion, could alone be called taste (21). (Franchi)

8. The situation of Barton, in a county so far distant from Sussex as Devonshire, which, but a few hours before, would have been a sufficient objection to outweigh every possible advantage belonging to the place, was now its first recommendation (25). (Grace)

9. Mr. John Dashwood told his mother again and again how exceedingly sorry he was that she had taken a house at such a distance from Norland as to prevent his being of any service to her in removing her furniture (28). (Elise)

10. Her wisdom too limited the number of their servants to three; two maids and a man, with whom they were speedily provided from amongst those who had formed their establishment at Norland (28). (Ruthie)

11. In the mean time, till all these alterations could be made from the savings of an income of five hundred a year by a woman who never saved in her life, they were wise enough to be contented with the house as it was...(31). (Morgan)

12. Their arrival seemed to afford him real satisfaction, and their comfort to be an object of real solicitude to him (32). (Lilly)

13. On every formal visit, a child ought to be of the party, by way of a provision of discourse (33). (Cristina)

14. An opportunity was soon to be given to the Dashwoods of debating on the rest of the children, as Sir John would not leave the house without securing their promise of dining at the park the next day (33). (Isis)

15. They would see, he said, only one gentleman there besides himself; a particular friend who was staying at the park, but who was neither very young nor very gay (35). (Allison)

Colonel Brandon, the friend of Sir John, seemed no more adapted by resemblance of manner to be his friend, than Lady Middleton was to be his wife, or Mrs. Jennings to be Lady Middleton's mother (36). (Portia)

16. His appearance however was not displeasing, in spite of his being in the opinion of Marianne and Margaret an absolute old bachelor, for he was on the wrong side of five and thirty...(36). (Benedetta)

17. The instrument was unlocked, every body prepared to be charmed, and Marianne, who sang very well, at their request went through the chief songs which Lady Middleton had brought into the family on her marriage, and which perhaps had lain ever since in the same position on the pianoforte, for her ladyship had celebrated that event by giving up music, although by her mother's account she had played extremely well, and by her own was very fond of it (36–37). (Becky)

18. To the former her raillery was probably, as far as it regarded only himself, perfectly indifferent; but to the latter it was at first incomprehensible; and when its object was understood, she hardly knew whether to laugh at its absurdity, or censure its impertinence, for she considered it as an unfeeling reflection on the colonel's advancing years, and on his forlorn condition as an old bachelor (39). (Anna)

19. He was received by Mrs. Dashwood with more than politeness; with a kindness which Sir John's account and her own gratitude prompted; and every thing that passed during his visit, tended to assure him of the sense, elegance, mutual affection, and domestic comfort of the family to whom accident had now introduced him. Of their personal charms he had not required a second interview to be convinced (48). (Molly)

20. Her form, though not so correct as her sister's, in having the advantage of height, was more striking; and her face was so lovely, that when in the common cant of praise she was called a beautiful girl, truth was less violently outraged than usually happens (48). (Yahfyah)

21. He acquiesced in all her decisions, caught all her enthusiasm; and long before his viist concluded, they conversed with the familiarity of long established acquaintance (49). (Isha)