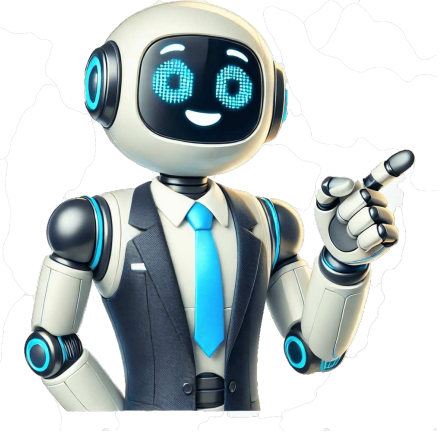


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Example of third person

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"Third person" most commonly appears in the phrases "third-person narrative," "to write in the third person," and "third-party (or -person) insurance." Third Person Narrative. A third-person narrative is a story told using the pronouns "he," "she," "it," or "they" or using nouns. In other words, the story is not told from a personal perspective. A third-person narrative contrasts with a first-person narrative, which is a story told from a personal perspective using the pronoun "I" (and sometimes "we"). To Write in the Third Person. "To write in the third person" means to use nouns or the pronouns "he," "she," "it," or "they." It is common in business writing. Third Party Insurance. Third-party insurance protects against the claims of others. Look at the following sentence: I (the first party) am ensured by you, the insurer (the second party), to protect me against them (the third party). The personal pronouns ("I," "you," "he," "she," "it," "we," "they") are grouped into one of three categories: Note: First person refers to the speaker himself or a group that includes the speaker (i.e., "I," "me," "we," and "us"). Second person refers to the speaker's audience (i.e., "you"). Here are the third person pronouns in the subjective case, the objective case, and the possessive case: With third person singular, the pronouns reflect gender. The table below shows the first, second, and third person pronouns. The third person pronouns are shaded. Here are four good reasons to care about the third person. The vast majority of teachers and reference books use the person categories to explain how grammar works (particularly verbs). Therefore, understanding terms like "first person singular" and "third person plural" is useful when learning a foreign language. Here are some examples of how the person categories appear in language books: Person English German French Spanish First Person Singular I play ich spiele je joue yo juego Second Person Singular you play du spielst tu joues tu juegas Third Person Singular he/she/it plays er/sie/es spielt il/elle joue el/ella/usted juega First Person Plural we play wir spielen nous jouons nosotros jugamos Second Person Plural you play ihr spielt vous jouez vosotros jagais Third Person Plural they play Sie spielen ils/ells jouent ellos/ellas/ustedes juegan When talking about yourself, using the third person presents a formal air. For example: Avro Corps will handle your complaint within 48 hours. Conversely, writing in the first person is useful to portray a personal touch. For example: We will handle your complaint within 48 hours. Using the third person in storytelling can portray the author as all-knowing. By using the third person, an author can highlight failings and raise observations about their characters from a judge- or God-like position. As a result, the reader will not consider the author's limitations when learning about the characters, only the characters' limitations. Therefore, if a character makes a basic mistake or says something stupid, the author can judge it without being tarnished by it. So, while writing in the first person can be engaging, writing in the third person affords the author considerable freedoms. Read more about writing in the first person. In business, write in the first person for a personal touch. When writing fiction, write in the first person to engage your audience quickly. Don't say or write "between you and I"...ever. The contraction "it's" means "it is" or "it has." The neuter possessive determiner is "its." It is not "it's." It is a grammatical howler to confuse "its" and its. Read more about "its" and "it's." Watch a video summarizing "grammatical person" (i.e., first person, second person, and third person) video lesson Are you a visual learner? Do you prefer video to text? Here is a list of all our grammar videos. You might also like... Help us improve... Was something wrong with this page? Use #gm to find us quicker. Create a QR code for this, or any, page. XYoutubeFacebookmailing listgrammar forum 1 Use third person for all academic writing. For formal writing, such as research and argumentative papers, use the third person. Third person makes writing more objective and less personal. For academic and professional writing, this sense of objectivity allows the writer to seem less biased and, therefore, more credible. Third person helps the writing stay focused on facts and evidence instead of personal opinion. 2 Use the correct pronouns. Third person refers to people "on the outside." Either write about someone by name or use third person pronouns. Third person pronouns include: he, she, it, his, her, its; him, her, it; himself, herself, itself; they; them; their; themselves. Names of other people are also considered appropriate for third person use. Example: "Smith believes differently. According to his research, earlier claims on the subject are incorrect." Advertisement 3 Avoid first person pronouns. First person refers to a point of view in which the writer says things from his or her personal perspective. This point of view makes things too personal and opinionated. Avoid first person in an academic essay. First person pronouns include: I, me, my, mine, myself, we, us, our, ours, ourselves.[1] The problem with first person is that, academically speaking, it sounds too personalized and too subjective. In other words, it may be difficult to convince the reader that the views and ideas being expressed are unbiased and untainted by personal feelings. Many times, when using first person in academic writing, people use phrases like "I think," "I believe," or "in my opinion." Incorrect example: "Even though Smith thinks this way, I think his argument is incorrect." Correct example: "Even though Smith thinks this way, others in the field disagree." 4 Avoid second person pronouns. Second person refers to point of view that directly addresses the reader. This point of view shows too much familiarity with the reader, by speaking to them directly, as if the writer personally knows his or her reading audience. Second person pronouns include: you, your, yours, yourself.[2] One main problem with second person is that it can sound accusatory. It runs to risk of placing too much responsibility on the shoulders of the reader specifically and presently reading the work. Incorrect example: "If you still disagree nowadays, then you must be ignorant of the facts." Correct example: "Someone who still disagrees nowadays must be ignorant of the facts." 5 Refer to the subject in general terms. Sometimes, a writer will need to refer to someone in indefinite terms. In other words, they may need to generally address or speak about a person. This is usually when the temptation to slip into the second person "you" comes into play. An indefinite third person pronoun or noun is appropriate here. Indefinite third person nouns common to academic writing include: the writer, the reader, individuals, students, a student, an instructor, people, a person, a woman, a man, a child, researchers, scientists, writers, experts. Example: "In spite of the challenges involved, researchers still persist in their claims." Indefinite third person pronouns include: one, anyone, everyone, someone, no one, another, any, each, either, everybody, neither, nobody, other, anybody, somebody, everything, someone. Incorrect example: "You might be tempted to agree without all the facts." Correct example: "One might be tempted to agree without all the facts." 6 Watch out for singular and plural pronoun use. One mistake that writers often make when writing in third person is accidentally conjugating a plural pronoun as singular. This is usually done in an attempt to avoid the gender-specific "he" and "she" pronouns. The mistake here would be to use the "they" pronoun with singular conjugation.[3] Incorrect example: "The witness wanted to offer anonymous testimony. They was afraid of getting hurt if their name was spread." Correct example: "The witness wanted to offer anonymous testimony. They were afraid of getting hurt if their name was spread." Advertisement home-sitemap»A-Z grammar terms »third person The term "third person" refers to someone else, i.e., not the speaker ("I," "me"), a group including the speaker ("we," "us"), or the speaker's audience ("you"). 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