

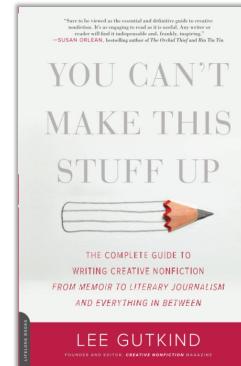
Self-Evaluation

10
minute
timer

Instructions

- The Course Syllabus outlines how Dr May evaluates Class Participation (under "Course Regulations").
- Please reread this information, and then evaluate yourself by answering the questions on the handout (circle the most applicable response).
- Dr May will take your self-evaluation into consideration when he assesses your Class Participation mark.

Writing Creative Non-Fiction



Unit 1a: What Is Creative Non-Fiction?

Unit 1b: The Truthfulness of CNF

Unit 1c: Ten Writing Recommendations

Unit 2a: Types of Creative Non-Fiction

Unit 2b: Research and Immersion

Unit 2c: Narrative and Narrators

Unit 3a: Reading and Readers

Unit 3b: Scenes

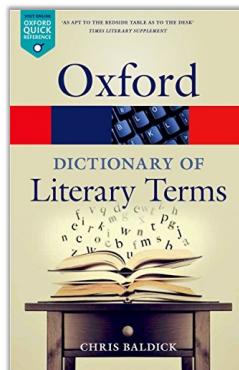
Unit 3c: Information

Unit 4a: Recreation and Reconstruction

Unit 4b: Hook, Frame, and Focus

Unit 4c: Revising Creative Non-Fiction

narrative and narrators



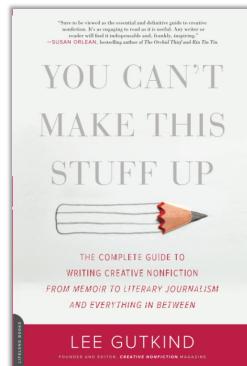
terminology

- narrative:** the sustained storyline of a work, integrating fictional and/or true information (237-38)
- plot:** the deliberate or organized plan, design, scheme, or pattern of events in a narrative (280)
- narrator:** the entity telling a story or relating a narrative from a specific viewpoint (238-39)
- viewpoint:** the position, perspective, outlook, or attitude of the narrator in relation to the narrative (Baldick 283)

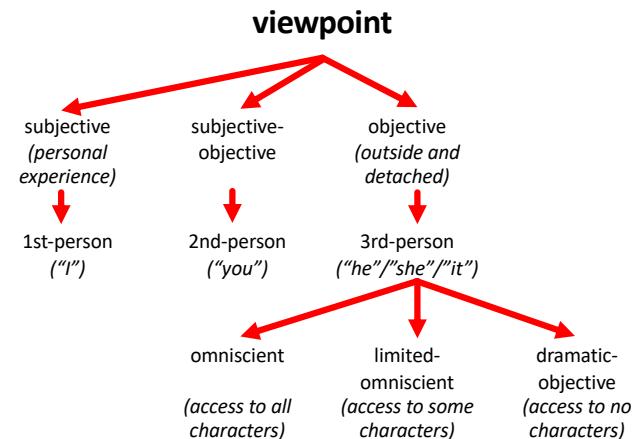
narrative = story

	poetry	fiction	drama	creative non-fiction
some associated narrative subgenres	epic, metrical romance, ballad	novel, novella, short story	play, scene, vignette	memoir, personal essay, lyric essay
example of narrative work	Milton, <i>Paradise Lost</i> (1667)	Atwood, <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> (1985)	Shakespeare, <i>Richard III</i> (1633)	Orwell, <i>Homage to Catalonia</i> (1938)
Baldick definition	narrative poetry (237-38)	short story (332)	dramatic monologue (106)	memoir (218)

❖ Benefits of a Strong Narrative Line



- **Memorability:** Readers remember facts more completely and reliably when they are part of a narrative
- **Persuasiveness:** Readers are persuaded of ideas more quickly and effectively when they are presented as part of a narrative
- **Emotional Impact:** Readers use vivid and impactful stories to help them make important life decisions (Gutkind 92-93)



❑ Author Biographies

Zoë Landale

- based in Vancouver and Pender Island, B.C.
- chair of the Creative Writing Department at Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- co-edited with Luanne Armstrong *Slice Me Some Truth* (2011)
- has written and published in various genres, including poetry and creative non-fiction

www.zoelandale.com

Wayne Grady

- lives in rural eastern Ontario
- author of more than fourteen books of creative non-fiction
- editor of numerous anthologies of fiction and creative non-fiction
- professor of creative non-fiction at UBC
- co-authored with spouse Merilyn Simonds *Breakfast at the Exit Café* (2011), a travel memoir

www.waynegrady.ca

❑ Zoë Landale, "Obstacle Course"



For nine years I¹ had such severe back problems that ordinary supermarkets had been off-limits for me. I hadn't been able to walk more than half a block. Nor had I been able to sit up longer than two hours at a time. "You're going to have to learn to live with it," well-meaning doctors told me about the constant pain. But I refused. Somewhere, I knew, was healing, and I was determined to find it. Eventually I did. (39-40)

📖 Wayne Grady, “Getting Somewhere”



She'd been living with her boyfriend.... They had just driven past the house she would probably end up living in and she'd barely glanced up at it.... Or she'd found herself at loose ends after Star, her daughter, left home.... She'd decided to go out to visit her at Christmas ... so she thought, why not drive? ... (Or she'd been a nurse with a second degree in psychology, working in the outpatient clinic at Calgary General, and then one day she bought a motorcycle. (267)

📖 Wayne Grady, “Getting Somewhere”

Narrative Line 1	Narrative Line 2	Narrative Line 3
¶1: living in Thunder Bay with her boyfriend	¶2: living in Toronto, daughter moves away	¶3: living in Calgary as a nurse, buys a motorcycle
¶4: dogs and boyfriend take an emotional toll	¶5: she drives out west to visit her daughter Star	¶6 rides to Edmonton, meets a trucker in a diner
¶7: feels an unexplained pain in her side	¶8: arrives in Vancouver to visit Star at Sylvia Hotel	¶11: he e-mails her nurse is needed in Watson Lake
¶9: leaves her boyfriend, decides to take a train	¶10: meets a man in the park who is birdwatching	¶14: she gets nursing job, rides with him sometimes
¶12: she meets a man on the train in Manitoba	¶13: they have lunch; his name is West	¶16: he sells the rig, buys a bus, and they part ways
¶17: goes with the man to Whitehorse, finds a job	¶15: she tells Star she's moving to Yukon with him	

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