

Someone is always speaking in a novel -- whether it is a narrator who is not a character within the fiction, or a character within the narrative. Consequently, both the particular ideas, attitudes, feelings, perspectives of that speaker, and the concerns and attitudes of the novel as a whole, will be presented through the prose. The analytical reader needs to understand what information is conveyed and how it is conveyed. The following is a guide to some things to look for, and contains: A. prose: the language; sentence structure; imagery and setting; discourse features. B. characterization C. genre and tradition