

Topic: Character descriptions

Using pronouns

Lesson concepts

- ◉ Word groups — Nouns (including pronouns)
- ◉ Visual language — Different images and contribution to meaning in texts
- ◉ Author and text — Authors create characters through language and images
- ◉ Text structures and language features that create texts — Informative texts: appropriate text structures, grammar, word choice, punctuation

Lesson objective/s

- Understand how to create texts about characters using appropriate text structure, grammar, word choice and punctuation

Today students will:

- ▶ listen to a reading of a picture book
- ▶ explore differences between words that represent the main characters (nouns and pronouns)
- ▶ explore the way characters are described in the story using language and images
- ▶ write a character description.

Resources

Text

Graham, B 2003, *Rose meets Mr Wintergarten*, Walker, London, UK

Digital

Video — Pronouns (4:34)

Sheet

Sheet 14 — Planning sheet for Mr Wintergarten

Sheet 15 — Description of Mr Wintergarten

Key terms

text structure, verbs

For definitions and explanations of terms, please see the [Glossary](#).

Lesson

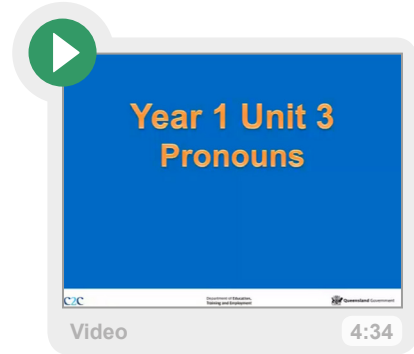
Listen to a reading of a picture book and explore differences in words that represent people

1. Read *Rose meets Mr Wintergarten* to students.
2. Explain to students that they will be exploring the difference between words that represent characters, for example, using words that replace the names of people (pronouns).

3. Show students the **Video — Pronouns**.

This video explores how words that represent people are used to name and identify characters. The video:

- explains that some words represent people, places or things; the real term for these words is nouns
- identifies the words that represent people — the nouns
- identifies the words that are used instead of the noun, for example, *he*
- explains that *he* represents the person; *he* is used to represent *Mr Wintergarten* and it replaces the words *Mr Wintergarten* in this text; words like *he* are called pronouns
- explores the use of pronouns in other examples, and who or what they represent
- shows the way pronouns can be used in writing.



4. Look for some examples of the pronouns *he* and *she* in *Rose meets Mr Wintergarten*.

Note

It is more important for students to be able to identify pronouns as words that represent people than to be able to define the term 'pronoun'.

Explore character development

5. Give students **Sheet 14** — [Planning sheet for Mr Wintergarten](#).
 - a. Tell students that this planning sheet has been filled out to help write a description of Mr Wintergarten at the end of the story.
 - b. Ask students to read the ideas on the planning sheet, or read them to students.
 - c. Ask students to add any extra words from the picture book that tell the reader what Mr Wintergarten looked like and acted like, and what his character traits were at the end of the story.

Write a character description

6. Give students **Sheet 15** — [Description of Mr Wintergarten](#). Using the information written on **Sheet 14**, students write a character description of Mr Wintergarten at the end of the story.

Reading

Daily reading routine

- Students choose a book to read (either independently or with you).