

## **What is Prose?**

Unlike poetry which is a kind of literature where the aesthetic and rhythmic characteristics of language are used to convey meaning, prose is a primary type of literature whose vocabulary is syntactic, with a spontaneous flow of speech rather than a metrical structure. The prose is used in writing novels, short story collections, biographies, autobiographies, memoirs, articles, travel books, academic essays, glossaries, manuals, and so on.

The word (Prose) is used to define any sort of writing that does not fit a recognized poetical form. But not all prose is a like, there is almost endless variety in the way we express ourselves in writing. We should hardly expect a novel to be written in lexical terms, or a scientific text-book to contain lengthy descriptions of the countryside. In each case, the style of the way that it has been written in, must be adapted to suit the subject matter.

## **Difference between Prose and Poetry**

1. **Prose** is a type of literature in which the language is used in its natural and organic form. **Poetry** is a type of literature that employs the aesthetic and rhythmic characteristics of language to convey meaning.
2. **Prose** is not concerned with rhyme or rhythm. **Poetry** is concerned with rhyme and rhythm, which are vital elements of a poem.
3. In **Prose**, the concepts are written in sentences, which are then organized into paragraphs. **Poetry** is composed of lines that are organized into stanzas.
4. In **Prose**, the vocabulary is more grammatical and natural. In **Poetry**, the language is metaphorical and rhythmical.
5. Most **Prose** can be comprehended with only one reading. Understanding the content of a poem may require more than one viewing.

## **Types of Prose**

### **1. Narrative Prose**

Narrative prose is a form of writing in which the work is written in prose, rather than in poetry, and tells a definite story through actions. Many written works are written in this form, including a great deal of literary work and most modern pieces of fiction.

## **Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte**

### **General Meaning**

This passage is about how the narrator who is the servant discovers the death of her master and the expressions she sees in his face. The whole passage is a description of Mr. Heathcliff's death.

### **Detailed Meaning**

In a raining day, the narrator sees her master's room windows open because of the rain which was driving straight into the bedroom. For the first moment, she thinks that her master is not in his bed, so she decides to go and check. When she opens the door with another key, she is shocked by seeing her master lying on his bed, gazing at her. In the beginning she does not think that he is dead, but then she becomes sure that he is dead when she sees the bed clothes very wet by the rain and one of her master's hands is wounded by the swinging windows but there is no blood coming out of his wound. When she is sure that he is dead, she tries to close his eyes but they refuse to, as if they are sheering her offer. There is a look of exaltation of Heathcliff's face.

### **The Writer's Intention**

The writer wants to show or describe the expressions of exultation which are on the face of Heathcliff, to indicate that he was happy with his death. He was so cruel in his life that the servant was afraid from him, even when he was dead.

#### ***Q1: What attracted the narrator's attention to the bedroom?***

The swinging open window and the rain which was entering the bedroom attracted the narrator's attention.

#### ***Q2: How did the narrator gain an entrance to the room?***

She gained an entrance to the room by using another key (spare key)

#### ***Q3: "I could not think him dead" Why not?***

Because he was so cruel in his life and was arrogant hard hearted man.

#### ***Q4: What expressions did the dead man have on his face?***

There was a look of exaltation on his face.

## **2. Descriptive Prose**

Descriptive prose refers to writing used to describe specific scenes, settings, or people within a piece of prose writing in such a way that allows readers to envision them vividly.

### **Diary by Dorothy Wordsworth**

#### **General Meaning**

The passage describes a visit of the narrator with two other persons to an inn asking for three beds to spend a night in the inn. The narrator neither likes the landlady nor the place.

#### **Detailed Meaning**

The narrator describes briefly the inn, its kitchen, the parlor, and the room, and the landlady and her servant. After hesitation, the landlady finally accepts the narrator's offer of three beds. The parlor is damp and wet but the landlady assures that the beds are all well aired. Though informed that the landlady is discreet, the narrator does not like the landlady's manner. Unlike the landlady, her servant, a girl of sixteen years old, is very helpful and ready to serve with a shining smile. The equipment of the kitchen is arranged without order except the plates and dish-covers which are orderly. The plates and their covers are all clean but the floors, passages, staircase, and everything else are dirty.

#### **The Writer's Intention**

The central idea that runs through this passage is that this small place "the inn" is the world where opposite things such as good and bad people, clean and dirty things exist. Sometimes you are obliged to accept things even if you are not completely satisfied with.

#### ***Q1: How did the parlor appear to the writer?***

The parlor appeared damp and cold.

#### ***Q2: What opinion did the writer form of the Land Lady?***

He said that the Land Lady is not a welcoming lady, her manners are not good and she does not like to be questioned and her face is frown.

#### ***Q3: Why did the servant make a favorable impression on the writer?***

Because she answered their needs with a smile in her face and have done them soon. She was the opposite of her Land Lady.

***Q4: State briefly what did the writer notice in the kitchen?***

The writer noticed that the kitchen was crowded with furniture, drawers, cupboards, dish covers, pictures, pan and pot, arranged without order. There was a contrast between those things and the dirty floors, passage and the staircase.

### **3. Argumentative Prose**

Argumentative prose is a form of writing that gives the reader opinions and facts. It further present the reader with a claim and support for the claim.

#### **Psychology and Education by Frieda Fordham**

##### **General Meaning**

The writer advices teachers to build a good relationship with the children at schools and explains the role teachers play not only in teaching but also in educating. Teachers should have distinguished personalities to influence their students.

##### **Detailed Meaning**

This passage falls into two sections. The first section of this passage deals with parents and teachers. In schools, teachers should assume the role of parents because children will be greatly affected by their teachers. The second part of the passage is dedicated only to teachers. In order to help children develop into satisfactory men and women, teachers should not simply stuff children with knowledge, rather, they should be good educators too. To be a successful teacher is to have a sound personality too. All the teaching techniques such as good preaching, sound principles, clever techniques or mechanical aids, will never replace the impact of a well- developed personality.

##### **The Writer's Intention**

The writer comments on the role that should be played by teachers to develop children into satisfactory men and women. Teaching and educating should go hand in hand.

***Q1. Why, according to the writer, is it important for teachers to ‘deepen their understanding of themselves’?***

This is because teachers are like parents. When children go to school, their teachers become substitutes for the parents.

***Q2. 'This mutual relationship...': which relationship?***

The relationship between children and their teachers.

***Q3. What is the writer's view of clever teaching techniques?***

Teachers should build a good relationship with the children and should have distinguished personalities.

***Q4. What different meanings does the writer attach to the terms 'teacher' and 'educator'?***

The writer attaches different meanings to the terms 'teacher' and 'educators' such as parents and persons with strong and affective personalities.