First-person point of view checklist

Start

Is the narrator sufficiently skilled, eloquent, and similar to yourself that you can write interestingly in her voice without compromising or altering your language?

Yes

No

Are the narrator’s language and worldview sufficiently interesting, different, powerful, and integral to the story that they justify abandoning your own way of writing?

Yes

No

Yes to all of these questions

No to any of these questions

Go for it! The first person perspective could be perfect for your piece. For more ideas, check out writing tip 41.

STOP

You should consider an alternative point of view. If you still want to have access to your protagonist’s thoughts and feelings (even to his language) then the third person subjective (also known as the third person limited) could be the perfect solution. For more information, see writing tip 42.