

Diction

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What is Diction?

Diction is a way of speaking or writing in someone's speech or writing to help suit the context.

<http://grammar.about.com/od/d/g/dictionterm.htm>

Why authors use diction

Authors use diction to avoid being repetitive and to set the tone of what is being said or wrote about. So when using diction use vocabulary suited for what you are trying to say about the character or what kind of tone you want to use.

<http://voices.yahoo.com/a-writers-diction-used-master-writers-523778.html?cat=4>

www.wheaton.edu/Academics/Writing-Center/Writing-Resources/Styles-Diction-Tone-and-Voice

Examples of diction

Wanting to say about character(s): He is from the south.
So how you would get this point across to the reader without having them read it would be something like this:
“Yes, I would like some soda.” she said.

Because people from the north say pop and people from the south say soda the author did not use the word pop to indicate that he was not from the north but use the word soda to indicate he was from the south.

Non-Examples of diction

What tone you want to set: Scary

The girl walked gracefully into the sunlight.

This would NOT be an example of using diction correctly because the words the writer used to describe the scene (gracefully and sunlight) didn't fit with what the writer wanted the tone to be.

Quiz

1) Tone: Action

The villain knocked the superhero on to the ground and to his feet but out of no where he was saved by another superhero.

2) Want to say about character: She is very clumsy.

I watched her fall down the stairs, get up, and then trip over her own feet.

3) Want to say about character: He is not strong

He tried so much that he was trembling but he finally lifted the 250lb. weight.