



Purpose

To create a vivid impression of a person, place, object or event.



English writing genres



Descriptive writing UKS2

Additional language features

Adjectives to describe settings:

attractive	crowded	glittering
peaceful	sedate	bare
damp	gloomy	desolate
picturesque	barren	bleak
magnificent	eerie	secluded
tranquil	quaint	vibrant

Adverbs to describe actions:

accidentally	bravely	frankly
courageously	eloquently	carefully
emphatically	adoringly	defiantly
desperately	ferociously	boldly
harshly	maliciously	modestly
painstakingly	wisely	rapidly
nonchalantly	spitefully	proudly

Features of descriptive writing

- To engage a reader's attention
- To create characters
- To create a setting for a story so that the reader can visualise it
- Setting a mood, or create an atmosphere
- Outlining a problem or difficulty
- Relies on precise vocabulary, with particular emphasis on well-chosen adjectives and adverbs
- 'Appeals' to the senses: what is heard, seen, smelt, felt or tasted
- Focusses on key details, with powerful verbs and specific nouns

Useful words and phrases

Adjectives to describe characters:

aggressive	blunt
charitable	deranged
elegant	ambitious
bold	determined
boisterous	deceitful
enigmatic	benevolent
conscientious	feeble
gallant	neurotic
loathsome	grotesque
placid	humane
quarrelsome	tenacious
vicious	resourceful
unscrupulous	obstinate
miserly	pugnacious
reckless	stubborn
optimistic	respectful
humble	resilient