Purpose

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

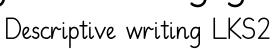






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English writing genres





Additional language features

Adjectives to describe settings:

crowded attractive glittering peaceful lively damp bare cosy barren gloomy eerie built-up magnificent dusty

Adverbs to describe actions:

accidentally boldly bravely courageously carefully wisely adoringly defiantly proudly desperately ferociously harshly maliciously modestly caringly

Features of descriptive writing

- To catch a reader's attention.
- To create a setting for a story so that the reader can visualise it.
- Setting a mood, or creating an atmosphere.
- Showing a problem or difficulty.
- Specific vocabulary is used to make things clear. Well-chosen adjectives and adverbs are needed.
- It appeals to the senses. Describe what is heard, seen, smelt, felt or tasted.
- Focuses on key details, with powerful verbs and specific nouns.

Extra for experts

- Start with an 'ing' word: Creeping silently, Grasping desperately,
- Start with an 'ed' word: Shocked, Terrified, Exhausted,
- Start with a simile: Glistening like a diamond in the morning sun, I could see...

In Year 3, do you remember writing a description from the swallow's point of view from 'The Happy Prince'?

Useful words and phrases



Adjectives to describe characters:

blunt
elegant
caring
determined
feeble
vicious
reckless
respectful
resilient
creative
sulky
stern
rowdy

