

Composition Skills: Writing Descriptions

- A **description** creates a clear and vivid picture of a person, place, or thing.
- A good description makes the reader feel as if he or she is actually there.
- Include a sentence that gives a general idea, or overall impression, of the person, place, or thing you are describing.
- Use vivid specific details to tell more about the overall idea.
- Use words that appeal to the senses: sound, sight, smell, touch, and taste.

A. Write the words in each sentence that create a vivid description.

1. The butterfly had a spot on its wing that looked like splattered ink. _____
2. The moth fluttered wildly around the light bulb. _____
3. Doesn't this soup have a spicy aroma? _____
4. Darma stroked the cat's warm, silky fur. _____
5. The lion let out a thunderous roar. _____

B. Complete each sentence with a vivid description word from the box.

horrible	echo	foul	itchy	lightning
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6. My legs moved as fast as _____
7. I pulled the _____ sweater over my head.
8. Her voice _____ down the hall.
9. The burnt toast left a _____ smell in the room.
10. Does your beverage have a _____ taste?

