

## Descriptive Writing - Mystery

Read the descriptive writing below and answer the questions that follow.

Returning to the scene of the crime, Betty decided to take one last look around the room to see if she could discover any more clues. The living room belonged to Cody Smith and looked like it did the last time she was there. Part of a large old farmhouse, the room was spacious with an imposing fireplace. Lots of things had been knocked over and they had also been broken. A clock was on the floor next to broken pieces of a side table. There was a gap on the wall where the painting had been stolen from. Everything was covered in a thin layer of dust except a letter which was sitting on the rickety table. "Hang on," said Betty, looking again at the letter. "This wasn't here before. It must be a clue!"

**1. Which word in the passage best creates a sense of mystery?**

- A) Spacious
- B) Imposing
- C) Dust
- D) Rickety

**2. Which feature of descriptive writing is used in this sentence?**

*"Everything was covered in a thin layer of dust except a letter which was sitting on the rickety table."*

- A) Dialogue
- B) Sensory detail
- C) Figurative language
- D) Rhetorical question

**3. What type of sentence is this?**

*"Hang on," said Betty, looking again at the letter.*

- A) Question
- B) Exclamation
- C) Statement
- D) Command

**4. Why does the writer use short sentences like "Lots of things had been knocked over and they had also been broken."?**

- A) To confuse the reader
- B) To build suspense
- C) To explain the setting slowly
- D) To sound funny

**5. What is the main difference between *narrative* and *descriptive* writing?**

- A) Narrative writing tells a story; descriptive writing paints a picture with words.
- B) Narrative writing uses harder vocabulary than descriptive writing.
- C) Descriptive writing always has dialogue, narrative does not.
- D) Narrative writing is shorter than descriptive writing.

**6. Why is the paragraph broken up instead of being one long piece?**

- A) To make it easier to read and separate ideas.
- B) Because the writer ran out of space.
- C) To show it is a poem.
- D) To make it look more dramatic.

**7. Which sentence is an example of dialogue?**

- A) *There was a gap on the wall where the painting had been stolen from.*
- B) *"This wasn't here before. It must be a clue!"*
- C) *The room was spacious with an imposing fireplace.*
- D) *A clock was on the floor next to broken pieces of a side table.*

**8. Which detail helps the reader imagine the scene most clearly?**

- A) Cody Smith's name
- B) The thin layer of dust
- C) The word "farmhouse"
- D) The fact that Betty looked again

**9. Which phrase shows that something important is missing?**

- A) Spacious with an imposing fireplace
- B) There was a gap on the wall where the painting had been stolen from
- C) Covered in a thin layer of dust
- D) Knocked over and broken

**10. What is the main purpose of this passage?**

- A) To explain how a farmhouse was built
- B) To give instructions about solving a crime
- C) To describe a setting and build suspense
- D) To tell a funny story about Betty

**11. Which of these BEST shows the writer is building tension?**

- A) Listing the broken objects
- B) Naming Cody Smith
- C) Using the word “rickety”
- D) Saying the farmhouse is old

**12. Why is Betty’s dialogue at the end important?**

- A) It makes the reader laugh
- B) It shows she has solved the crime
- C) It signals a possible new clue and keeps the mystery going
- D) It describes the farmhouse