

NAME:.....

CLASS:.....

DATE:.....

DESCRIPTIVE LANGUAGE - WRITING TO DESCRIBE

Adjectives Describing words that describe a noun. Used to help create a more vivid picture in our minds about the named object.	The sun – scorching, blazing, egg yolk, burning, bright, blinding, fireball The moon – desolate, luminous, cheese, grey, blood-red, crescent, nostalgic The sky – ombre, endless, horizon, ocean, sun rays pierced clouds, clear, cloudy, mesmerising, like Jesus smiling/waving at you, marshmallow, heavenly, azure (blue) The boy – ebony, onyx, diligent, Adonis (handsome man), chubby, gay, blue-eyed, droopy-eyed, rosy cheek, cheeky The house – resplendent (magnificent), luxurious, mansion, castle-like, abandoned, haunted, crumbling, dilapidated, run-down, Victorian, ancient The building – reaching/piercing the skies or clouds, collapsing, gargantuan, mammoth-like, urban, artistic, aesthetically-pleasing, iconic	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?
Adverbs Words used to describe verbs. They help to create a more vivid picture in our minds about how something is being done.	late – notoriously, fashionably, annoyingly early – on the dot, early bird, earlier than a crowing rooster angry – furious, fuming, steaming, reaching my boiling point, full of rage, livid, erupt like a volcano intention – insidious, malicious, genuine, devious, humble, sincere a lot – glut, myriad, a plethora of (things, books, fishes), paraphernalia (of merchandises), abundant too little – meagre, scarce, rations, inadequate happy – on cloud nine, ecstatic, euphoric/euphoria, music to my ears, smiling ear to ear sad – despondent, crestfallen, hitting rock bottom, shattered to a million pieces, crushed, her eyes brimmed with tears,	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?

Onomatopoeia Use of words which echo their meaning in sound. For example, 'whoosh' or 'bang'. This techniques can give the reader a real sense of the noise that is happening within the writing.	Sounds made by: The door – creak, bang, a loud thud Nature – chirping/twittering/tweeting of birds, flapping their wings, roar of a lion, gushing (waterfall), splash, rustling of leaves, crumpling of dried leaves, snapping (branches/twigs), hoot The person – humming, whimper, whispering, giggling, snorting, tapping of footsteps, thumping, clapping, cough The animal – roar, hissing, purring, barking/growling, mooing, bleating, cuckoo, howling Sounds heard at/in: School – alarm ringing, shrieking Home – buzzing of the alarm, clock ticking, sizzling (food cooking), thumping, clanking, tapping of the keyboard, flush A road – honking, blaring siren, screeching of tyres, skidding,	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?
Alliteration Repetition of connected words beginning with the same letter. Used to highlight the feeling of sound and movement, or to intensify feeling or to bind words together.	S - The sound of a stick and a shambling step... B – The blue-eyed boy bought a bag of balloons. L – Larry the leopard ate a lemon and laid down. M – Marc the magician performed a marvellous magic trick in front of Mrs Marcus.	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?
Connotations An idea or feeling that a word invokes for a person as well as its literal meaning. Connotations evoke reactions in the reader based on their experience of certain words. For example, words like ghost and death can evoke strong negative connotations.	eerie – cold, darkness, death, skeletal remains, damp, blood, graveyard, emptiness, alone, silence, echoes, cackle, creaking floorboards, howling happy – laughter, parties, marriage, birth, bright colours, colourful, sunny, ice-cream/candy, rainbow, pets, babies, family angry – fire, heat, explosion, arguments/fights, war, red, clenching of the fists, violence sad – tears, empty room, a shattered object, clown, death, separation, something broken, grey, gloomy, dead flower, withered tree/plant	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?

	beautiful – flowers, smile, sun, a good heart/kindness, nature, painting/artwork, family rich – a buffet/gourmet food, jewellery, fur coat, dollar bills, private jets, mansion, Rolex, luxurious cars, butler, bodyguard, property, gold colour, silver poor – rags, brown, dirty, run-down, homeless, starving, stray (animals), rusty, beggars, penny,	
Pathetic fallacy Where the weather in the story mirrors the emotion of the scene or the people in it. For example, when it is very hot the characters are agitated or when it is foggy, mystery is evoked. This adds atmosphere to the writing and gives clues to the reader as to what is to come, especially if the weather is described before the event.	foggy – mysterious, death, evil is lurking, darkness, fear, loneliness, uncertainty, curiosity, lost hot – jealousy, anger/rage, irritated, passionate, furious, impatience cold – lonely, distance (between two people), serious, sleepy, comforting, death wet – irritated, cleansed, problems/worries washed away, hope, (good) expectations dry – tired/fatigue, stuck, aging, uncomfortable, weak, thirsty, desolate,	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?
Personification The technique of presenting things which are not human as if they were. This can make inanimate things seem as if they are alive and able to do the things that a person can.	doll – smiling, staring, waving, weeping book – teaching/educating, solves, answers, entertain, cheer you up, take you to places shoe – take you places, protect, bites, entice, pleases, gives a perspective sun – smiling, gazing, burning, peeks (sun rays), wake you up, gives life life – gives, takes, throws, intense, cruel, blessing tree – waving (palm/coconut trees), dancing, protecting/covering, wise, stands tall, hit (branches), aging.	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?
Repetition The action of repeating something. This will either add emphasis to the words being repeated or create a rhythm within the writing.	Cover your eyes, cover your mouth, cover everything.	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?

Simile A comparison based on a similarity between two things, which suggests one object shares features with another but is not identical. This technique helps to create an image in the mind of the reader so that the reader can identify with how things appear or may be happening. Hint - 'like' or 'as' are key words to spot.	as busy as a bee as proud/brave as a lion as easy as ABC as obstinate as a mule	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?
Symbolism When a word, phrase or image stands for or evokes a complex set of ideas. For example, a red rose can symbolise romantic love. Writers will sometimes use symbols in their writing so that they can suggest things without actually explaining them.	clock – time, aging, death, hard work, elderly people house – family, relationships, love, tree –life, age, family, nature, strength flower – beauty, innocence, love, sadness, vulnerability, fragile, purity blue –sadness, ocean/water/sky, cold, peace, boy book – knowledge, sophistication, adventures, wealth, solutions/answers	What words / phrases would you like to include in your story?