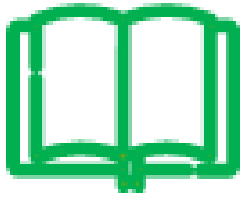
A hand-drawn sketch of a notebook. The notebook has a rectangular border. Two paper clips are attached to the top edge. A pencil is drawn in the bottom right corner, pointing towards the center. The text is centered on the page.

9<sup>th</sup> grade  
Cambridge IGCSE – First  
Language English

Date: 2021.10.05



# What is a narrative?



- **A narrative** tells a story through a series of events (plot) in evolving characters.



# What is a description?

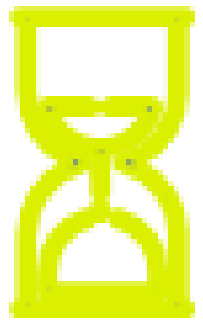


- **Description** is a detailed account of something witnessed or experienced. Both may or may not be fictional.

# #1 Are the following statements about descriptive writing **true** or **false**?

1. Descriptive writing must be based on the truth.
2. You need a wide vocabulary to be good at descriptions.
3. It is difficult to make descriptive writing interesting.
4. Descriptive writing is the easier choice.
5. You should use only the sense of sight when describing something.
6. Descriptive writing doesn't need a structure.
7. You don't need to write in full sentences for description.
8. Descriptions are often written in the present tense.

# What is descriptive language and style?



- Descriptions are often written in the present tense to give a sense of immediacy.
- Your vocabulary level and ability to structure varied and sophisticated sentences are assessed, so you should avoid repeating words or using non-sentences (without main verbs).
- Don't start every sentence in the same way, e.g. with *There is* or *The storm* or *it*, but vary the subject and verb and the word order. ***Variety is the key*** to good descriptions, so try to avoid ordinary language and **include the following:**

**NEXT SLIDE →**

- Unusual (**polysyllabic**) vocabulary
- As many of the five sense as possible
- Multiple adjectives
- **Similes** and **metaphors**
- Varied sentences lengths and types
- Sound effects (e.g. alliteration, assonance, **onomatopoeia**).

# What is descriptive writing?

- Avoid repeating words or non-sentences.
- Vary the subject and verb, and the word order.
- Avoid ordinary language

## ***Include:***

Unusual vocabulary (**polysyllabic**)

As many as 5 senses as possible

Multiple adjectives

Varied sentence lengths and types

Sound effects (**alliteration, assonance, onomatopoeia**)

**Simile and metaphor**

- **Alliteration**: Repetition of the first sounds or sounds in a group of words.

## ALLITERATION

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers;  
A peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked;  
If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers,  
Where's the peck of pickled peppers  
Peter Piper picked?

# Assonance

## WHAT IS ASSONANCE?

- **Assonance is when you find a juxtaposition of two words that have rhyming vowels in the middle of them, next to or very close to one another in a sentence.**
- **The rule of assonance mostly applies to vowels which rhyme and not consonants, although in some cases consonants will be assonant, the majority of the time it will be vowels. For examples the words stony and phony. Assonance is mostly used to add a certain interest to the phrase and cause it to be much more memorable to the reader. It is especially useful in poetry.**
- **Using assonance is a good way to reinforce words, therefore drawing more attention to them and giving them a stronger effect on the reader or the listener.**

## ASSONANCE IN SPEECH

- The sun rose **high** in the bright **sky**.
- The **rain** in **Spain** falls **mainly** on the **plain**.
- The man **passed** a **glance**.
- I saw the **fool** and the **fool** was **cool**.
- A **certain** person hid behind the **curtain**.
- The **creek** looked **bleak**.
- **How now brown cow**.
- There's a **drum** in the **hum** of the city.
- I like the **west** for the **west** is **best**.
- **That cat** had a **snack**.
- Let the **cat** out of the **bag**.

## ASSONANCE IN WRITTEN WORKS

- "And she stepped softly within her air of ruin around the **glade**, in a **frail** pain of **grace**."

This is an excerpt from a piece of writing by Cormac McCarthy in which the long 'a' sound of the highlighted word gives us an example of assonance.

- "The raven ne'er **fitting** is still **sitting**."

This example of assonance is taken from the poem, The Raven by Edgar Allen Poe.

## ASSONANCE USING CONSONANTS

You will usually see the use of vowels in assonant phrases, however, there are some times when consonants will appear within assonance. Here are a few examples of when it is used with consonants.

- The **sky** looks very **dry**.
- She acted **sly**, it made me **cry**.



- **A simile** is a figure of speech in which two things are compared in a way that clearly indicates that a comparison is being made.
- This is typically done using the words *like* or *as*.
- *His temper is like a thunderstorm.*
- *His temper is as furious as a thunderstorm*
- *His temper is furious, much like a thunderstorm.*

- ***Similes*** are generally used to make descriptions more vivid.
- “The stars twinkled”
- “The stars twinkled like diamonds.”

***Similes* allow descriptions to be more concrete or better engage the senses...**

- The word ***metaphor*** refers to a symbol that represents something else.
- **Metaphors** can create powerful imagery and description, deepening the meaning of objects and ideas.

Examples:

- The grandfather clock **is king of the family room furniture.**
- The grandfather clock **became a death knell for her childhood.**
- The grandfather clock **had the face of an estranged lover.**

- The grandfather clock **is king of the family room furniture.**
- The grandfather clock **became a death knell for her childhood.**
- The grandfather clock **had the face of an estranged lover.**

Metaphor 1: shows us the clock's size and importance;

Metaphor 2: shows us the clock's ominous presence, focusing on its sound;

Metaphor 3: treats the clock as forlorn and solitary.

- In other words, each of these metaphors express the relevance of the grandfather clock without stating it explicitly. Such is the beauty of metaphors: the ability to tell a story through proximity.



Homework:

Page 23 – exercise 3,4, 5