

# Writing to Describe (task on slide 19)



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# Learning Objective

- To use a range of figurative language to describe a jungle scene.

# Success Criteria

- To recall the purpose of narrative devices.
- To use wider vocabulary to describe an image.
- To produce a piece of creative writing.



# Word Types

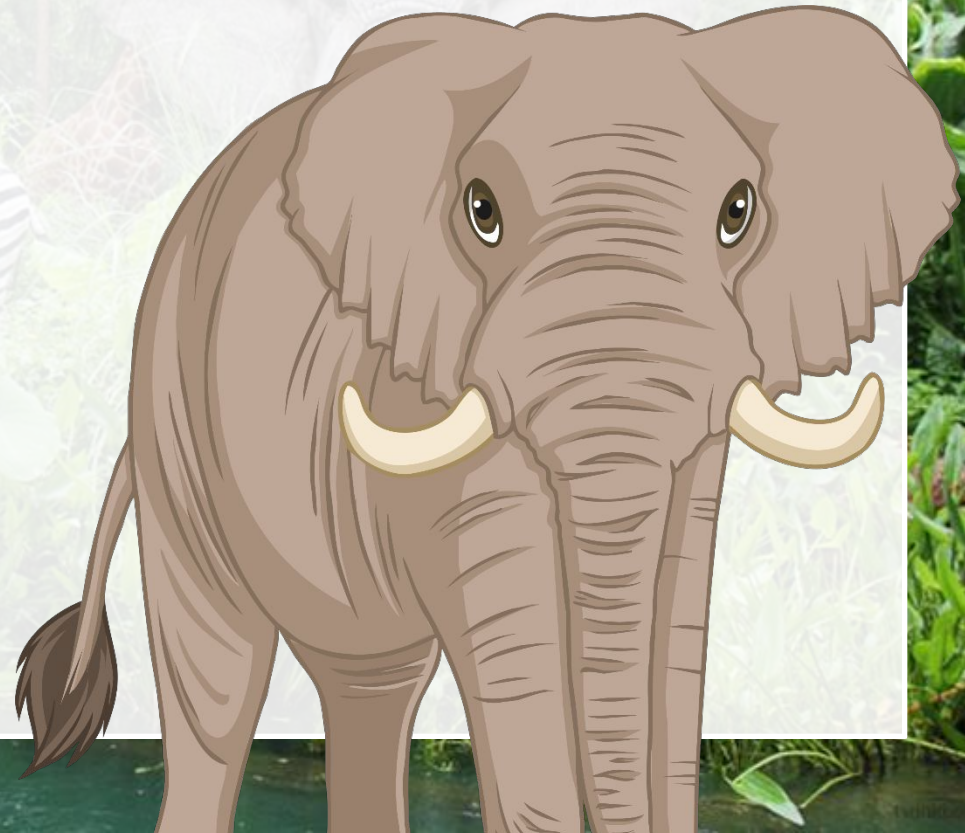
# Adjectives

Adjectives are words that describe nouns (naming words).

i.e. The **shiny** mirror.

**Noun:** Nouns are **names** of people, places and things.

**Adjective:** Adjectives **describe** the mirror's appearance. Without this, the reader wouldn't know if the mirror was clean or dusty or what it was like at all.



# Adjectives

Make a list of five adjectives based on this picture.



# Nouns

Make a list of five nouns based on this picture.



# Banned Adjectives!

- As writers, we need to be as creative and interesting as possible.
- This means using a variety of vocabulary.



## Pause for Thought

If your adjectives are on the banned list, you will have to think of new ones!

Try to think of alternative options, ask a friend for suggestions, or use a thesaurus.



## Banned List

big	green
large	beautiful
nice	wet
grey	old
tall	small
short	round

# Verbs

Verbs are action words – ‘doing’ words. They often end in –ed/-ing depending on tense. They show what the noun is ‘doing’.

i.e. The lion roared.

← **Verb:** this is what the lion is **doing**.



Can you remember what this type of word is called?



# Verbs

Make a list of five verbs to accompany your nouns.  
What could they be 'doing'?



# Adverbs

Adverbs describe verbs! They add detail to explain how the action is being 'done'.

i.e. The lion roared slowly.

**Adverb:** The adverb tells us **how** the lion was roaring by **describing** the action of its roar and creates a much clearer image for the reader.

What was this word class?

What is this?  
A verb or an adjective?



# Adverbs

Now, make a list of five adverbs to describe your verbs.



# Have a Look

You should now have a list of:

- five nouns
- five adjectives
- five verbs
- five adverbs

We have a good basis  
for some writing.  
However, **great** writers  
need a little more...



A savanna scene featuring a herd of zebras, a giraffe, and an elephant in a lush, green environment. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent light green filter. The word "Devices" is written in a bold, green, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

# Devices

# Similes

A simile describes something by comparing it to something else using 'like' or 'as'.

e.g. The lion's roar was **like a** trumpet, calling the pride to war.

Or

e.g. The elephant's skin was **as** grey **as** the miserable sky.



# Similes

Use your ideas so far to create two similes.



# Metaphors

Metaphors describe something as being something else.

e.g. The lion's roar **was** a trumpet, calling the pride to war.

## Top Tip:

Metaphors are a powerful way to describe and can create strong, vivid images. They are a really useful tool when describing.



**Can you think  
of one  
metaphor to  
use with your  
ideas so far?**

# Alliteration

Alliteration is an effective way of adding 'sound' to your description.

e.g. The **r**oaring **r**umbled **r**epeatedly in the distance.

## Top Tip:

The repetition of the 'r' sound helps the reader to hear the sounds of the scene they are imagining.



# Personification

Personification is a great way to bring your writing to life. It gives human qualities or characteristics to something 'non-human'.

e.g. The jungle leaves **reached out** to engulf me.



We know that leaves don't really reach out to grab us, but this gives the jungle a more sinister quality and feels as if it is 'alive'.



# Your Turn!

Your task is to write a description of a waterfall scene. It doesn't have to describe this picture but you can use it to help you.



Remember: you are trying to create a vivid image for the reader.



Use your knowledge of similes, metaphors and personification to make sure you have used lots of interesting vocabulary and figurative language.

Aim to write at least 2-3 paragraphs for your description.

# Descriptive Writing Checklist

Have I Used?	Yes/No	Partner
interesting adjectives		
powerful verbs		
carefully selected adverbs		
similes		
metaphors		
alliteration		
personification		

When you have finished and checked your work, ask a partner to check whether they think you have used all the things on your checklist. They could colour-code these and highlight them in your work.



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