

Descriptive Essay Example Analysis Worksheet

Purpose:

Use this worksheet to actively study descriptive essay examples. Identify techniques, note patterns, and practice replicating effective strategies in your own writing.

Essay Information

- **Title of Example Essay:** _____
- **Author (if known):** _____
- **Subject Type:** (Person / Place / Experience / Object) _____
- **Education Level:** (Middle School / High School / College) _____

1. Dominant Impression

- **What is the central feeling or mood of the essay?**

- **Which sentences or details reinforce this impression?**

2. Sensory Details

Sense Example from Text Notes on Effectiveness

Sight

Sound

Smell

Taste

Touch

3. Show vs. Tell

- Identify a “telling” statement (stated fact or quality):

- Rewrite as “showing” using concrete sensory details:

4. Figurative Language

Type	Example from Text	Effect on Reader
Simile		
Metaphor		
Personification		
Other		

5. Organization & Structure

- What organizational method is used? (e.g., spatial, chronological, thematic)

- How does this structure guide the reader?

6. Strengths

- What techniques worked particularly well?

7. Areas for Improvement

- Could anything be enhanced for clarity, detail, or impact?

8. Replication Ideas

- Which techniques can you use in your own essay?

Instructions for Students:

1. Choose an essay example from the collection.
2. Fill in each section of this worksheet while reading carefully.
3. Focus on noticing **patterns, specific language choices, and techniques that create vivid imagery.**
4. Use observations to plan and draft your own descriptive essay.

