

Sensory Language Practice with Sample Answers

Purpose:

Practice using sensory details to create vivid, immersive descriptions. Engage all five senses to enhance descriptive writing.

Instructions

1. Choose a subject: a person, place, object, or experience.
 2. For each sense, write **specific details** describing the subject. Avoid vague words like “nice” or “good.”
 3. Use at least **one simile, metaphor, or personification** per sense if possible.
 4. Compare your answers with the **sample responses** for guidance.
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Sensory Language Worksheet

Sense	Your Description	Sample Answer
Sight	_____	“Sunlight streamed through stained-glass windows, painting the floor with shards of ruby and emerald.”
Sound	_____	“The old floorboards creaked rhythmically under each step, and distant church bells tolled softly, marking the hour.”
Smell	_____	“The faint scent of damp wood mixed with lavender sachets tucked into drawers, soothing yet earthy.”
Taste	_____	“A sip of spiced apple cider left warm cinnamon tingling on my tongue, sweet with a hint of tartness.”
Touch	_____	“The velvet armchair felt plush and cool, its threads slightly worn under fingertips, comforting in their softness.”

Mini Descriptive Paragraph (Example Response)

Sunlight poured through the stained-glass windows, scattering ruby and emerald across the polished floor. Each step made the floorboards sigh, accompanied by the gentle tolling of distant church bells. The room smelled faintly of damp wood and lavender, an earthy sweetness that calmed the senses. I took a sip of spiced cider, warm cinnamon dancing on my tongue. Sitting in the velvet armchair, I felt its cool, worn softness cradle me comfortably, inviting me to linger.

Reflection Questions

1. Which senses did you find easiest to describe? Which were most challenging?

2. How did using figurative language enhance your description?

3. Which details could be expanded to create a stronger mental image?

Instructions for Students:

- Repeat the exercise with different subjects.
- Focus on layering **multiple senses** within a single paragraph.
- Use this practice to develop sensory-rich drafts for your descriptive essays.