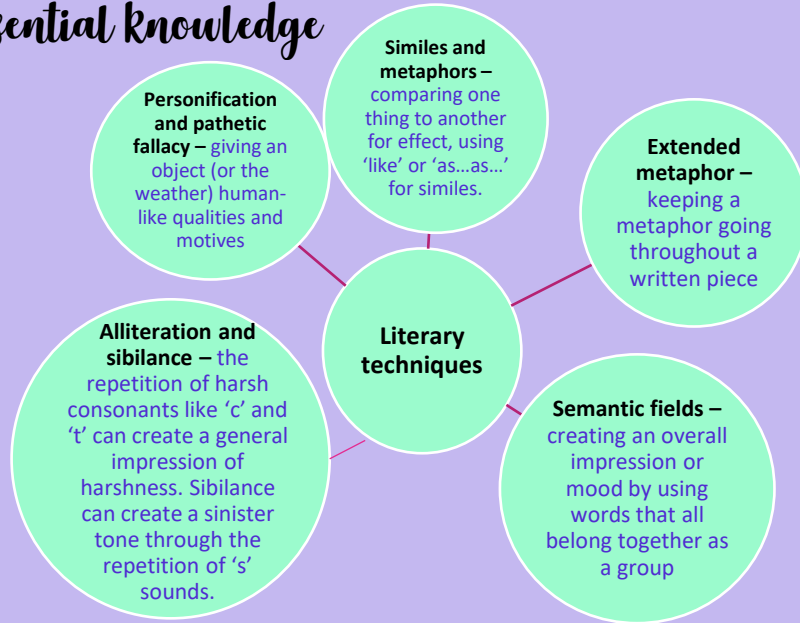


Year 9 English - The journey

Essential Knowledge



Success criteria for descriptive writing:

- Clear use of paragraphing to structure writing. Short paragraphs can be used for effect.
- A range of literary techniques
- A variety of sophisticated sentence types
- A variety of sophisticated vocabulary with accurate spelling.
- A wide range of accurate punctuation.

How do I 'show not tell'?

Use your nouns, verbs and adjectives to 'show' your reader what you mean. Instead of 'The beach was dirty' try '*Cans, bottles, plastic bags: a plethora of debris littered the sand.*'



Key Terms	Definition
semantic field	words that can be grouped together by meaning/topic. Ensure all lexical choices suit the atmosphere/tone desired.
extended metaphor	a metaphor that is sustained (carried on) in a piece of writing.
Vocabulary Category	Definition
Positive adjectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethereal (extremely delicate, otherworldly) • Exquisite (outstanding in beauty or perfection) • Incandescent (bright, radiating) • Iridescent (shining with luminous colours) • Kaleidoscopic (changing pattern of many colours)
Negative Adjectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erratic (not regular in pattern or movement) • Impenetrable (impossible to pass through) • Incessant (continuing without pause, constant) • Laborious (requiring significant effort and time)
Movement Verbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engulf (to sweep over/surround/cover) • Permeating (to spread through something) • Pervading (to spread through, especially a smell) • Thrashing (beating violently or in a chaotic way)
Sounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cacophony (n.) (mixture of harsh sounds) • Melodiously (adv.) (having a pleasant tune)
Smells	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aroma (n.) (a strong, positive smell) • Odour (n.) (a strong, negative smell) • Pungent (adj.) (a sharply strong taste or smell) • Acrid (adj.) (having an irritatingly strong and unpleasant taste/smell)

Grammar Focus – sentence types:

- **'Not only ... but'**. E.g. **Not only** was the boy dirty, **but** his clothes were also torn and two sizes too small for him.
- **Double adjective start**. E.g. **Smooth** and **iridescent**, the seashell contrasted starkly to its murky surroundings.
- **2adjectivesx2**. E.g. The **lonely, solemn** moon shone dimly onto the **deep, dark** ocean.

Writing structure



Drop-in – Provide your reader with an overview of the setting and atmosphere. Hint: try using pathetic fallacy by personifying the weather to create an atmosphere suitable to your setting and mood.



Shift – Shift in time, location or perspective. Shifting in time? Try: 'But it wasn't always this way.'



Zoom – zoom in on one particular object or person. Describe in detail. Tip: Choose something that you have plenty to write about.



Zoom 2 – zoom in on another particular object or person. Describe in detail. Tip: Use sensory language to write in a lot of detail.



Return/Link – return to the image you created in your 'drop in' paragraph and describe a change (e.g. the weather, a sudden appearance)