

Uplevelling Descriptive Writing: **Adventure**

Has the author included...

- a description of what can be seen?
- a description of what can be heard?
- a description of what can be felt?
- a description of the weather?
- powerful adjectives to describe the atmosphere?
- a variety of sentence structures?



Read through the descriptive writing below and use the checklist to see which features the author has managed to include. When you have finished, give the author feedback on their writing using the boxes below.

Features that I really liked:

1. _____

2. _____

Features that I would improve:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Alex felt as though he had been climbing for years. The heavy rain and strong wind were making it really difficult. He was still determined to reach the top. That was where the lost emerald was rumoured to be. All around him were rocks, sharp edges and thick clouds. If he fell now, it could be the last thing he ever did.

As he climbed, Alex noticed that the cloud was beginning to thin. Suddenly, he could see what was ahead of him. It was amazing. When he set out to find the lost emerald, Alex knew that he was going to see new things but he didn't expect this. What he could see was a castle that was balancing at the very top of the mountain. It was great.

Uplevelling Descriptive Writing: Chiller

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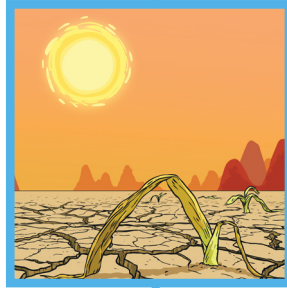
As the thick fog descended, the children stopped running and found themselves in front of a large house. The large house, which they could barely see through the fog, loomed over them like a frightening elephant. All around, they could hear strange sounds like creaking, screaming, wailing, howling and some footsteps. Knowing that they wouldn't be able to find their way back home through the fog and fearing that the strange figure was still after them, the children had no choice but to go through the large, wooden door.

It creaked as they pushed it open. Inside, the air hung with the smell of damp and decay. The masses of cobwebs that hung from every surface made it clear that this house had been abandoned for a very, very, very long time.

Uplevelling Descriptive Writing: **Fable**

Has the author included...

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Our fable begins on a small farm above a small village. If you listen closely, you can hear the distant sound of horses ploughing a field and the rustle of leaves on the trees. If you bend down and touch the ground, you will feel that it is dry and warm. The sun is beating down on the field as it has been for the past two months. While this has made for excellent sunbathing weather, it means that the crops have not had enough water to grow and the yield has been poor.

Sitting against a cobbled stone wall is Brynn. A small boy who has just turned eight. He knows that his family will not have enough food for the winter and is determined to think of a plan to help them.

Uplevelling Descriptive Writing: **Fantasy**

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The Forest of Lox is amazing. Although it is nearly always damp with drizzle, it is still probably one of the most amazing places that you will ever see in your life. Although it is filled with so many tall trees that you can't always see the sky, it is never dark. This is because it is home to millions of fireflies who spend every day floating around the trees and mushrooms. There are many rumours that the mushrooms in the Forest of Lox can grant you any wish if you can tell them a joke which makes them laugh.

The inhabitants of the Forest of Lox are usually shy and can rarely be seen. You can, however, hear the fluttering of fairy wings and the sound of tiny footsteps if you listen very, very carefully.

Uplevelling Descriptive Writing: **Mystery**

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Returning to the scene of the crime, Betty decided to take one last look around the room to see if she could discover any more clues. The living room belonged to Filbert Figg and looked like it did the last time she was there. Part of a large manor house, the room was grand with an imposing fireplace. Lots of things had been knocked over and they had also been broken. A clock was on the floor next to broken pieces of a side table. There was a gap on the wall where the painting had been stolen from. Everything was covered in a thin layer of dust except a letter which was sitting on the mantelpiece.

“Hang on,” said Betty, looking again at the letter. “This wasn’t here before. It must be a clue!”

Uplevelling Descriptive Writing: **Myths and Legends**

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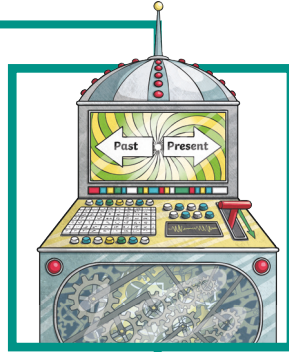
Many moons ago, the city that we find our brave hero in looked a lot different than it does today. Instead of tall skyscrapers, there was a bustling market. Instead of the sound of buses and taxis, there was the sound of people chatting and haggling. Instead of the smell of full bins, there was the smell of fresh produce and spices. It was a very busy place. It was also very hot and there was a lot of sand on the floor. Lots of people liked the place although some didn't.

This is where our tale begins. With a boy who is sitting on the outskirts of the market. He has dirty clothes and a strange coin in his hand. He is happy but also a bit sad.

Uplevelling Descriptive Writing: **Sci-Fi**

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Nova was very excited because she had just travelled in a time machine for the first time ever. It was a lot shakier than she had expected and she was now feeling a little bit sick. Nevertheless, she pushed open the door so that she could see what the year 3032 looked like.

The first thing that surprised Nova was how fast everything was! As soon as she stepped out of the door, she had to jump back in again because something metallic had zoomed past her. Not only was everything so fast, it was also so tall. Nova wondered if the skyscrapers were now called skypiercers because the tops of them were so tall that they had been hidden by clouds. Nova didn't know what to go and investigate first; everything just looked so exciting!

Uplevelling Descriptive Writing: **Traditional Tale**

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When Red stopped at the door of Grandma's cottage, something didn't feel right. Red looked around. Everything looked the same as it had done the last time she was here. The cottage was small and covered in ivy. It was the only house for miles. The little flowers on the windowsill were still waving in the wind and the pebbled path that led up to the blue door looked normal. What was it that seemed strange?

Hesitantly, Red walked towards the blue door and placed her hand on the knocker. It was then that she realised why everything had seemed a little bit strange. It was the smell. All she could smell was the smell of trees and woodland. Where was the smell of Grandma's Saturday cooking? Usually, when Red visited her grandma, she would be greeted with freshly baked cookies or a large, tasty sponge cake.