

Read the rumbling volcano setting description below. Analyse the vocabulary and descriptions that have been used.



As the slanted rays of the setting sun filled the sky with golden and orange hues, the cavernous, steep volcano stood proudly and overlooked the land below. While this colossal giant had been sleeping for hundreds of years, it had chosen tonight to awake.

A deep, growling, rumble thundered across the land and warned petrified locals that danger was imminent. Suddenly, the mighty monster roared angrily; the ear-piercing explosion echoed for miles. While the bitter stench of burning ash engulfed the air, bubbling, molten lava oozed and grainy fragments of rocks (which launched through the air like missiles) fired from the volcano's mouth at speed. Fiery, smouldering sparks scattered and radiated heat in the crisp, evening sky as dense, black ash clouds rolled through the air. Scorching, red liquid - which furiously destroyed anything that dared to lay in its path - flowed down the rugged slopes like a river. Wisps of grey smoke circled high above the savage monster while vivid, congealed lava cracked the rocky surface and marked its impression for hundreds of years to come. The ferocious beast continued to grumble and assert its power.



Read the rumbling volcano setting description below. Edit and improve the vocabulary to make it more descriptive. Add different sentence starters and a range of punctuation to make the text more engaging.



The sun was setting. The volcano was big. It overlooked the land below. The volcano hadn't erupted for years before tonight. There was a low noise. It warned people that danger was coming.

The volcano exploded and the sound echoed. It smelt of burning. Clouds of ash and rock came out of the volcano. The weather was cold but the sparks heated up the air. Lava ran down the sides of the volcano.

It destroyed everything in its way and cracked the rocks. There were circles of smoke in the air. The volcano continued to rumble. It was very powerful.

Setting Description Checklist

Did I	Child	Friend	Teacher
include an introduction?			
describe what can be seen?			
describe what can be heard?			
describe what can be smelt?			
describe what can be felt?			
describe the atmosphere and mood?			
use figurative language to create effect?			



Volcanoes Descriptive Words

What Can Volcanic Rock Be Like?

extrusive, glassy, grainy, grey, heavy, holey, igneous, light, magmatic, resistant, unique

How Might People Feel during an Eruption?

amazed, anxious, awestruck, concerned, curious, frightened, intrigued, overwhelmed, panicked, petrified, upset

What Is Lava Like?

bubbling, congealed, fiery, flowing, fluid, liquid, molten, red, scorching, thick, viscous

What Does an Eruption Look Like?

angry, catastrophic, dark, explosive, fiery, flaming, looming, smoky, spewing, steamy, violent, widespread

What Does an Eruption Sound Like?

booming, deafening, explosive, growling, hissing, loud, roaring, rumbling, screaming

What Can a Volcanic Crater Be Like?

bowl-shaped, broad, cavernous, circular, deep, flat-bottomed, huge, low-rimmed, nested, steep-walled, vast, wide

How Could You Describe a Volcano's Appearance?

capped, conical, enormous, eroded, giant, lofty, mighty, sloped, submerged, towering, underwater, uneven, vast

How Does Lava Move?

downhill, flowing, oozing, overlapping, predictably, sliding, slowly, sluggishly