

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



A dark, misty haze swept over the evening sky warning people to take shelter from the ferocious disturbance that was about to occur. Swirling, ebony clouds gathered together as if preparing for battle while icy winds whirled across the town gaining in power. Overhead, seagulls squawked and screeched while they tried desperately to escape the upcoming storm. A fine sprinkling of rain quickly turned into a heavy downpour, drenching everything in its path. Suddenly, a powerful flash of jagged lightning tore through the clouds and fiercely lit up the sky. In the distance, the monstrous thunder's voice boomed, rumbling closer and closer as the storm wreaked havoc. The angry sea swallowed the beach as colossal waves crashed against the rocks. As the wind howled and wailed, it ripped off loose tree branches and knocked over garden dustbins. Destructive and dangerous: nothing was going to stand in its way.



Read the storm setting description below. Edit and improve the vocabulary to make it more descriptive. Add different sentence starters to make the text more engaging.



It was evening and the sky was dark. People went indoors because there was a storm coming. There were black clouds and cold winds. The seagulls were noisy. They flew away to try to escape the storm. There wasn't much rain to start with but then it became heavy. It was really wet. There was lightning and it was very bright. The thunder was noisy and it got closer and closer. The sea was very rough. Then, the wind knocked over bins and tore off tree branches. It was very dangerous.

Setting Description Checklist

Did I	Child	Friend	Teacher
describe what can be seen?			
describe what can be heard?			
describe what can be felt?			
describe the time of day?			
describe the weather?			
use powerful adjectives to describe the atmosphere/mood?			

Extreme Earth: Natural Disasters

Descriptive Words

How Could a Flood Be Described?

deep, devastating, excessive, extensive, mighty, overwhelming, periodic, rapid, recurrent, seasonal, severe, tremendous, unprecedented

What Is a Hurricane Like?

catastrophic, deadly, dreadful, forceful, intense, powerful, severe, strong, terrible, unexpected, violent

What Is a Volcanic Eruption Like?

active, deafening, explosive, fiery, infernal, massive, pressurised, pyroclastic, thermal

How Could People Feel during a Natural Disaster?

angry, anxious, confused, desperate, despondent, displaced, empty, frightened, grieving, irritable, lost, shocked, traumatised, unsafe, withdrawn, worried

How Could an Earthquake Be Described?

brief, cataclysmic, continuous, convulsive, large, localised, minor, powerful, violent

What Is a Tsunami Like?

amplified, coastal, damaging, deadly, devastating, gigantic, monstrous, phenomenal, powerful, seismic, silent, tall, unstoppable, widespread

How Could a Tornado Be Described?

conical, critical, destructive, ferocious, fierce, furious, intense, loud, sudden, thunderous, tropical

Descriptive Settings: Storms

What Can I Describe?	How Can I Describe It?	What Can It Do?	Examples of Effective Phrases		
wind	blustery	blow	the banks of the river burst because of		
rain	boisterous	pour	the ferocious current		
clouds	fierce	gush			
thunder	sharp	bend	the bleak sky gushed a heavy downpour		
lightning	cold	break			
sun	heavy	snap	a fierce crack of thunder		
trees	vicious	drift			
grass	strong	destroy	delicate flakes of snow began		
precipitation	monstrous	fly	to drift through the air		
hail	scary	crack			
river	bleak	flash	only one stream of sunlight		
air	grey	billow			
sky	frightening	bounce	The first of the state of the s		
weather	dangerous	dance			
temperature	hazardous	glide			
snow	slow	sway			
leaves	rapid	howl			
branches	turbulent	overflow			