

Sensory Imagery Dictionary Example

Sensory Imagery and Settings

Sensory Imagery is a writing technique based on the five senses. Using verbs to describe what is seen, heard, felt, smelled, and tasted draws the reader into the story. In the setting, this technique helps the reader to feel transported into the place where the story takes place by helping the reader to feel, hear, see, smell what the main character does.

Question Techniques

1. **What did you see?** List nouns. What were they doing? List verbs.
2. **What did you hear?** (use onomatopoeia)
List nouns. What were they doing? List verbs.
3. **What did you feel?** List nouns. What were they doing? List verbs.
4. **The smell/scent of...**list nouns.... filled, flooded, lingered, wafted, rose, floated, surrounded
5. **The taste of...**list nouns.... burst, filled, flooded, permeated, surrounded

Example of a Setting: Crunch! Crunch! Crunch! Joe's boots broke the forest's silence. A full moon peeked out from behind two clouds. Tree shadows licked the snow drifts in its shimmering light. Joe shivered as a cold gust of wind blew through his jacket.

Sensory Imagery for a Medieval Setting

*saw

*heard

*felt

*smelled

*tasted

knights bellowed/cheered/charged/
roared/galloped/swung/lunged
ducked/turned/exploded

ladies screamed/curtsied/giggled/
smiled/gazed

venison baked/roasted/steamed

stew-simmered/boiled/smelled delicious

crossbow's arrow shot/whizzed/
twanged/sprang/exploded/flew

mace smacked/smashed/destroyed/
splintered

lance pierced/knocked/pounded/
struck/penetrated/cut/sliced

trebuchet launched/exploded/smashed/
knocked

Sample Medieval Setting:

Teacher Model Using Dictionary:

Looming into the sky, the castle walls stretched on for miles. High on the castle walls, young ladies curtsied and giggled behind cupped hands awaiting the knights. Suddenly they arrived bellowing and cheering as they galloped through the gates.