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What is a descriptive phrase in literature

In descriptive writing, the author not only tells the reader what was seen, felt, tested, smelled or heard. Rather, the author describes something from his own experience, and through careful choice of words and phrasing, makes it seem real. Descriptive writing is vivid, colorful and detailed. Bright red and orange sunrise Good descriptive writing creates an impression in the reader's mind about an event, place, person, or thing. The writing will be such that it will set a mood or describe something in such detail that if the reader saw it, they would recognize it. To be good, descriptive writing must be concrete, evocative and credible. To be specific, descriptive writing must offer details the reader can imagine. Rather than Her eyes were the color of blue stones (Light blue? Dark blue? Marble? Slate?), try instead, her eyes sparkled like sapphires in the dark. To be evocative, descriptive writing must unite the specific image with phrasing that evokes the impression the author wants the reader to have. Think of her eyes shone like sapphires, warming my night versus the woman's eyes had a light that sapphires, bright and hard. Each expression uses the same specific image, and then uses evocative language to create different views. To be credible, the descriptive author must limit the concrete, evocative image that fits the reader's knowledge and attention span. Her eyes were brighter than the sapphires in the armrests of Tipu Sultan's golden throne, but sharper than the tulwars of his cruellest boans will have the reader checking his phone halfway through. Her eyes were sapphires, bright and hard creating the same effect in a fraction of the reading time. As always in the art of writing: when in doubt, write less. The following sentences provide examples of the specificity, mood and plausibility of good descriptive writing. Her last smile to me was not a sunset. There was an eclipse, the last eclipse, in the middle of the day dying away to darkness where there would be no dawn. My Uber driver looked like a deflating airbag and sounded like voice radio on repeat. The old man was bent into a capital C, his head leaning so far ahead that the beard almost touched his knobby knees. The painting was a field of flowers, blues and yellow on top of deep green stems that seemed to call the viewer in playing. My dog fur felt like silk against my skin and her black color shone, absorbing the sunlight and reflecting it back like a clean, dark mirror. The sunset filled the sky with a deep red flame, setting the clouds on fire. The waves rolled along the coast in a graceful, gentle rhythm, as if dancing with the country. Winter hit like a welterweight that year, a jabbing cold you thought you could stand until the wind got up and dropped you to the canvas. Because descriptive text is so powerful, of it can be found in famous literature and poetry. The mysterious novelist Raymond Chandler was one of the masters of American literature in descriptive language. This phrase from The High Window strikes the perfect notes to embody her subject: She had in-colored hair set in a ruthless permanent, a hard beak and large damp eyes with the sympathetic expression of wet stones. Note the vivid description of smoke in this excerpt from Rebecca Harding Davis's Life in the Iron Mills: The Idiosyncrasy of this city is smoke. It rolls sullenly into slow folds from the large chimneys of iron foundries, and settles into black, slimy pools on muddy streets. Smoke on the skulls, smoke on the dirty boats, on the yellow river - clinging in a coating of greasy soot to the house front, the two faded poplars, the faces of passers-by. In this excerpt from jamaica inn by Daphne du Maurier, you notice the author's choice of adjectives, adverbs and verbs. Granite. - I'm sorry, Du Maurier's choice of words allows the reader to almost feel the weather happening on the page. It was a cold grey day at the end of November. The weather had changed overnight, when a tailwind brought a granite sky and a mizzling rain with it, and although it was now only a little after two o'clock in the afternoon, the pale of a winter evening seemed to have closed on the hills, masking them in fog. In Alfred Tennyson's The Eagle, he conveys power and majesty in just a few lines: He hugs crag with crooked hands; Near the sun in lonely countries, ring'd with the azure world, he stands. The wrinkled sea beneath him creeps; He looks from his rock walls, and like a lightning bolt he falls. Descriptive text examples are also found in many songs, since songs are meant to capture your emotions and to invoke a feeling. Some of the most vivid and effective descriptive writing in music can be found in rap. The evocation of alienation and the need to create in Through the Strings of Infinity by Canibus is truly poetic. I was born in an empty ocean, My tears created oceanexperimental tsunami waves with emotionSperking the open sea of an unknown galaxyI floated in front of whom I am physicallySpiritually paralyzing mind body and soulIt gives me energy when I am m lyrical trainerI have to spit ' until the story is told in a dream of heavenly bodiesFollow me baby Heavy metal band Opeth uses vivid descriptive writing to evoke loneliness in his song Windowpane. Empty face in the window paneMade clear in seconds of lightDisappears and returns recount hours, searching the night In her hit song Blank Space, Taylor Swift uses specific, evocative descriptions to evoke two very different impressions. First: Cherry lips, crystal skyI can show you incredible thingsChair kisses, beautiful liesYou are the king, baby, I am yours crying, perfect stormI can make all the tables turnRose gardens filled with thornsHold you second guessNow that you have several different examples of descriptive text, you can try your hand at writing a detailed, descriptive phrase, paragraph or short story of your own. If you need help with powerful descriptions, try some figurative language to help paint an image and evoke emotions. If you need inspiration, explore the authors associated above, or check out our quotes from poets like H.D. Hilda Doolittle and Gerard Manley Hopkins, writers like Angela Carter, or songwriters like Tori Amos and Tom Waits. B.A. English & Theatre Descriptive language appeals to all of our five senses: taste, touch, vision, smell and sound. When used correctly, descriptive words can entertain, persuade, inform and educate the reader. List of descriptive words: Adjectives, Adverbs and Gerunds After all, the goal of fiction writing is to transport us to another country. Let's take a look at a list of descriptive words that include adjectives, adverbs and gerunds. They are some of the most powerful tools in the toolkit. What is the most popular description in English? Adjective. Adjectives change nouns and pronouns. That's how we know the woman was gorgeous or the sunset sparkling. (However, it is worth noting that although all adjectives are descriptive words, not all descriptive words are adjectives.) The best way to expand our adjective knowledge is to pick up a book and read. Meanwhile, let's prime the pump with this list of adjectives:AdorableIntrepidAdventurousJoyfulAcclaimedJubilantAccomplishedKeenAcrobaticKookyBraveLankyBrightLazyBrilliantLimpComposedLuxuriousConcernedMediocreConteMellowConventionalMiserableDeliriousNocturnalDemandingOrganicFlusteredOrnateFocusedOrdinaryFoolhardyPowerlessGregariousPracticalGrimPreciousHandsomePuzzledHandyQuestionableIntelligentQuirky While adjectives provide additional description for nouns, adverb adds verbs. Adverbs take things up a notch, though. They can also change other adverbs, as well as adjectives. Adverbs can be used to describe terms such as time, place, circumstance, manner or degree. Pretty impressive, isn't it? Although these modifiers are multiphase-filled, it is advisable to use them with caution. Writing that is doused in too many adverbs (or adjectives) is quickly earmarked as an amateur. Therefore, it is important to build an arsenal of adjectives and adverbs. With that kind of knowledge, you will be able to choose the right one at the right time. When you scroll through the list, you will notice that the adverbs all end in shelter, but remember that there are adverbs, which almost or rarely, do not share this end. Ready to dive Gerunds belongs on the same branch of the family tree as adjectives and adverbs. But they're a bit of a quirky aunt or flashy uncle. Gerunds is made of verbs, but acts as nouns. Sounds weird, doesn't it? Take a look at this sentence: Do you mind if I borrow hair aimed at? It seems that loans should be the verb, right? In fact, borrowing gerund, which acts as a noun, and mind is the verb. In English, gerunds end up in -ing. Gerunds can be descriptive words because are often used to describe the actions of a person. In the list below, baking is first up. Here's an example of baking working in a sentence like a gerund: The party's success was all because of my baking of apple pies. Enjoy this sampling:BakingNailingBikingMakingCookingMixingCryingPaintingPyingPreparingDrivingTripSwimmingSwimmingSwingingHammeringTalkingTalkingKingJokingJokingValkingJumpingWallowingLaughingWriting Descriptive words help paint an image in the reader's mind. They can bring to life characters in a novel or short storySelling an item in a product adExplained the setting of a news articleGiving instructions for a DIY projectWhen it comes to using descriptive words, variation is key. Instead of overusing the same words, challenge yourself to come up with creative ways to appeal to readers' senses. You can use this list of descriptive words for fragrances for help. An effective use of descriptions will paint a vivid image in readers' minds and make writing impossible to lay down. Down.