

Painting Pictures with Words: Using Adjectives

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases and precise adjectives to add detail, interest, and clarity to writing.

Today, you are going to write a descriptive paragraph about a magical garden. Use the word bank to help you choose exciting adjectives that describe the sights, sounds, and smells of your setting. Remember, good writers show, not just tell!

As I pushed open the creaky, iron gate, I stepped into a garden that seemed to hum with a secret life of its own.

Word bank: vibrant · shimmering · enormous · fragrant · mysterious · glistening · velvety · ancient · in addition to · furthermore · as if by magic · captivating

1. Describe the flowers in the garden. Use at least two adjectives to describe their color and size. Start your sentence with: The flowers, which were... (2 marks)

2. Describe the sound of the garden. How does the wind move through the leaves? Start your sentence with: A gentle breeze whispered through the... (2 marks)

3. Nova the owl is watching from a tree. Describe the tree she is perched on using an expanded noun phrase. Start your sentence with: High above, Nova watched from her... (2 marks)

4. What is the most mysterious object you can find in the garden? Use an adjective to describe it. Start your sentence with: Hidden beneath the ivy lay a... (2 marks)

5. How do you feel as you walk through this place? Use a powerful adjective to describe your emotions. Start your sentence with: I felt entirely... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Choose two of your sentences and try to improve them by replacing your adjectives with even stronger, more precise synonyms. For example, change 'big' to 'colossal' or 'nice' to 'enchanted'.