



3. Descriptive paragraph

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1. What is a descriptive paragraph?

- Creates a clear picture of smth in the reader's mind
- Writers create this picture by describing the subject's main features with clear details.

2. Types of descriptive details

1. Spatial location
2. Sensory details
3. Feelings
4. Relevant information

2.1. Spatial location

- Prepositional phrases
- Show the location of physical features and their details

Example:

1. People hang the Mexican flag **from their houses and cars.**
2. They put lights, balloons, and pinwheels **in the streets and on the buildings.**

Prepositional phrases

- **At the top** of Russia's coat of arms, we can see three crowns. They stand for the unity and sovereignty of Russia.
- **In the center**, a silver horseman slays a black dragon with a silver spear.
- **At the bottom** of the design, the artist has depicted an orb and a scepter to symbolize sovereign power and authority.



2.2. Sensory details

- Appeal to five senses
- Writers may use all or some of these senses in their descriptions.

Example:

1. The sound of mariachi music is everywhere.
2. Everything is red, white, and green because these are the national colors.

How to add sensory details?

Ask these questions:

- **Sight:** What do I see? What does it look like?
- **Sound:** Can I hear anything? How does it sound?
- **Smell:** Can I smell anything? How does it smell?
- **Taste:** What can I taste? How does it taste?
- **Touch:** What can I touch? How does it feel?

2.3. Feelings

- Create an impression about a subject

Example:

1. People are **excited**.
2. In the early 1800s, the Mexican people had many **concerns** about their life under Spanish rule.

Some adjectives to describe feelings

concerned	hopeful	proud
excited	hopeless	sad
glad	inspired	shocked
grateful	joyful	sorry
homesick	peaceful	surprised

2.4. Relevant information

- includes facts that your reader must know to understand the subject
- can also include examples and explanations

Example:

1. **Almost half a million** people go there.
2. Now, **every September 15 at 11:00 pm**, a government leader reenacts El Crito de Dolores.

References

- Final Draft 2 pp.77-84
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coat_of_arms_of_Russia