

Describing Settings

Use these exciting words to help describe what the setting is like.

Where?

House, Garden, Castle, Mountain, Snowy
Derelict building, Old mill, Old school
Beach, Space, Island, Desert, Snowy
Plane/Train/Ferry/Boat, Shop,
Museum, Cinema, Hospital,
Garage, Train station, School
Shopping Centre, Office,
Fairground/Theme park, jail,
street, park, tower, sky, farm.

Imagined lands such as Narnia,
Lapland, Platform 9 ¾ .

Historical Settings: During the
first and second world wars,
during Tudor times, during the
Roman times.

Time of Year

Seasons: Autumn, Winter,
Spring, Summer.

Months of Year: January,
February, March, April, May,
June, July, August, September,
October, November, December.

Time of Day

Time: Daylight, twilight, dusk,
dawn, midday, midnight, early
morning, late night, middle of the
night, mid-morning, lunchtime,
dinner time, late afternoon,
afternoon, late morning.

SEE

Waves crashing
Snow falling slowly
Birds soaring/swooping,
Shattered glass windows
Rippling curtains
Waves crashing
Train thundering past
Clanging
Darkness
Brilliant light
Boats bobbing
Shoppers bustling
Heated discussions
Children playing
People waiting
Sweeping beach
Lush grass

HEAR

Birds chirping/squarking
Wind whistling/howling
Pitter-patter of raindrops
Trees swaying
Thud of footsteps
Crashing/Banging/Thudding
Storm thundering through the
clouds
Shouting/Chanting/Cheering
Strange noises
Creaking hinges/floorboards
Sirens
Screams/shrieks
Roar of traffic

FEEL

Negative feelings: frightened ,
concerned, fearful, scared, upset,
emotional, depressed, bitter,
gloomy/glum, fed up, angry,
malicious, violent, tense, stressed,
lonely, isolated, apprehensive,
worried, on edge, pressured,
afraid, annoyed, ashamed, tired,
shattered, anxious, confused,
irritated, embarrassed, surprised,
frustrated, shocked, nervous,
bored.

Positive feelings: cheerful, safe,
nostalgic, relaxed, comfortable,
enthusiastic, joyful, ecstatic,
eager, loved, secure, warm,
settled, relieved, confident,
thoughtful, friendly, proud,
pleased, friendly,

SMELL

Dusty, damp, musty, fresh, sweet,
sour, bitter, stink, stench, scent,
spicy, whiff, reek, delicious,
disgusting, essence, fragrance,
fragrant, incense, burning,
smouldering, freshly baked bread,
salty, roses, sea air, petrol, odour,
home cooking.

What is the weather like?

Sunny: glorious, warm sun,
beautiful, glittering sun beams,
brilliant rays of light, cloudless,
radiant, pleasant, summery, bright,
beaming, blazing, twinkling,
glaring, glimmering, sparkling.

Cloudy: overcast, dull, grey
horizon, murky skies, plentiful
clouds, darkened, gloomy, foggy,
dismal, dusky, misty, drab, sunless.

Stormy: torrential rain, booming
thunder, daggers of lightening,
blow, blustering, foul, boisterous,
wet, wild, torrid, turbulent skies.

Rainy: lashing rain, drizzle,
downpour, shower, monsoon,
drizzly, soggy, drippy, dewy, damp,
dank, raindrops splashing/dripping/
trickling/pouring/pounding.

Windy: blustering, blustery, airy,
brisk, drafty, gusty, wild,
windswept, tempestuous, fresh,
howling wind, raging wind,
turbulent wind, roaring, violent,
howling.

Cold: chilly, fresh, frosty, icy, raw,
freezing.