**Description Paragraph**

*"When we can feel the breeze that sweeps through the valley—that's the kind of descriptive writing that comes alive." —*Rita Dove, American poet

Descriptive writing appeals to one or more of your five senses—sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch. It can make you see the lights of traffic on a bridge at night, smell the smoke of a dying campfire, or hear crickets sing. Description is writing that uses vivid details to capture a scene, a setting, a person, or a moment and share it with others.

Most descriptive writing contains

* Sensory language that helps readers to share experiences with the writer
* Vivid verbs, precise nouns, and descriptive modifiers
* Figurative language or comparisons—such as personification, exaggeration, similes, hyperbole, and metaphors—to inspire readers' imagination
* Logical organization, such as chronological or spatial order

**Descriptive Paragraph Rubric**

Content

\_\_\_\_ / 5 Topic sentence and clincher

\_\_\_\_ / 5 Sensory and vivid details and\_\_\_\_ / 5 Vivid, precise language

\_\_\_\_ / 5 Logical organization

**\_\_\_\_/ 20 Total Content**

Mechanics

\_\_\_\_ /5 Typed/proper MLA format with heading, 1” margins/Length (5 sentences)

\_\_\_\_ /5 Spelling/Punctuation/Grammar

**\_\_\_\_ /10 Total Mechanics**

**\_\_\_\_ /30 points total**

Comments:

**Possible ideas:**

* your favorite food
* the scene at a concert or athletic event
* your neighborhood
* a pizza
* a pet
* a particular friend or family member
* an inspiring view
* a character from a book, movie, or television program
* a Halloween costume
* your Grandma’s kitchen
* your bedroom
* a basketball, baseball glove, or tennis racket
* a treasured belonging
* a favorite restaurant
* a closet
* your memory of a place that you visited as a child
* a locker