

# Making Your Story Come Alive with Sensory Writing



All writers start with a blank page. Writers want to create an inviting world on that page with a main **CHARACTER** who has a **PROBLEM** in a specific **SETTING**.

By using descriptive words, you help the reader **SEE** the *character*. Pick words that reveal

**SIZE**

**SHAPE**

**COLOR**



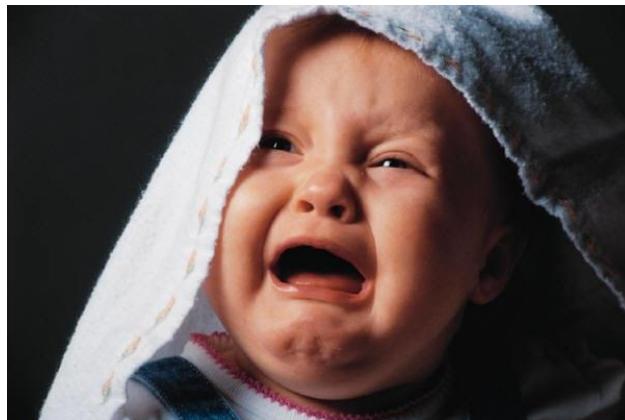
1 - Pick one or more of these characters and write a few words or phrases to describe them.

**Example:** Solo wore a *light lime green shirt* over *dark gray baggy pants*. His *thick toes* poked out from his *dusty sandals*. A greasy headband kept his *wavy brown hair* from falling into his eyes. He pushed *the dirty cloth back with a grimace*.



2 - Now pretend you are a character and place yourself in the **SETTING**. What do you **HEAR**?

If the **SETTING** was in a *home* where the **CHARACTER** is babysitting, he might hear:



3 - *Crying, Sobbing, Wailing, Screaming*

If the **SETTING** was in a *jungle* where the **CHARACTER** is exploring, she might hear:



*4 - Growls, Roars, Snarls, Chomping*



*5 - What might your character **taste** at dinnertime?*

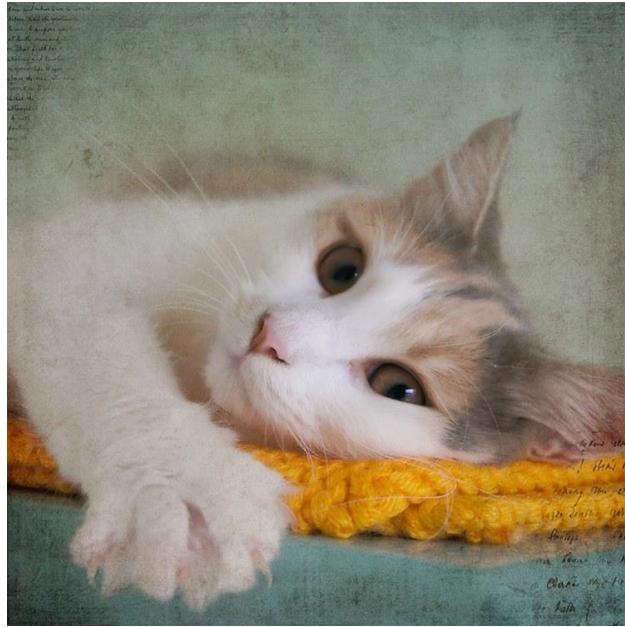


6 - Food can be **SWEET** as honey ; **SOUR** as a dill pickle; **SALTY** as sea water; **BITTER** as black tea



7 - Another sense is **SMELL**. Let's pretend your character has just walked into a pizza place. What does he smell?

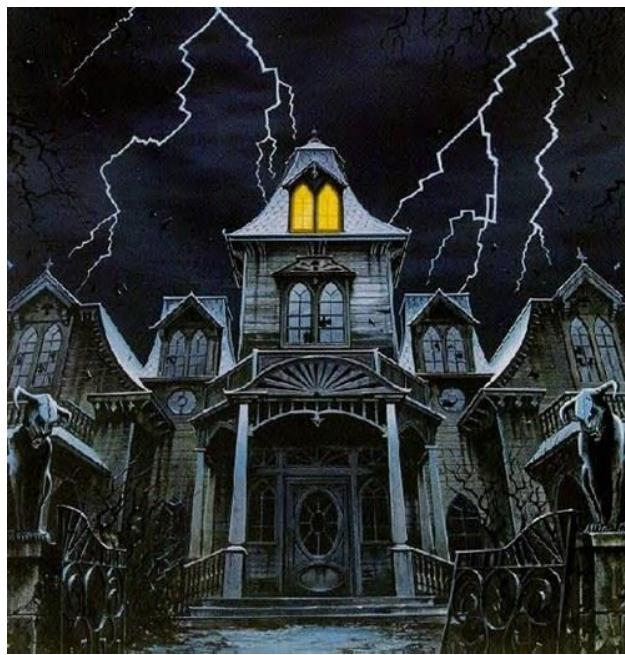
- Fresh baked bread
- Onions and peppers
- Hot sausage and pepperoni



8 - **TOUCH** is the fifth sense.

How would it feel to pet this kitty? **Soft, furry, warm, ticklish**

One final SENSORY point to mention is that of **FEELINGS/EMOTIONS**. Including these in your story also helps to bring your characters alive, especially your *Main Character*.



9 - How would your character *feel* if she was trapped alone in this haunted house?

- **Scared silly**
- **Creeped out**

- *Like she was going to have a heart attack*

## Examples of Sensory Sentences

### FROM THE GRAVE

See: *I shuffled my **bucket-sized feet** in my **freshly polished boots**.*

Hear: *Bony skeleton trees **clattered** in the wind.*

Smell: *I sniffed...A **hint of clean**. A **wisp of Gurglenut Chewies**.*

Taste: *We collect rainwater and flavor it with **moldy fruit** and **fermented seaweed**.*

Touch: *A **startling heat** surged from her **cold fingers**. I yelped as it **singed** my right palm.*

Emotion: *My **head shuddered** as a **burning fire** raced through my blood. My usually under control **monster anger** boiled over.*

Here's your chance to create a **SHORT STORY**.

Pick a monster from the video or make up one of your own.

Using **Word Magic** with **Sensory Words** write a *Day in the Life of My Monster*.

Try to have a **BEGINNING, MIDDLE, and END**.



Visit my [website](#) for more writing tips.

I hope you'll keep **writing** and **reading** many more spooky stories! I'd love to read some of your stories. :)

As my monsters would say, **Scary on!!!**

