

A New Chocolate Room

Year 10 Creative Writing
PL



Purpose

Over the last few weeks, we have explored ways that authors successfully create a vivid scene for their readers to imagine their stories taking place in.

This task is designed to give you the chance to use the range of techniques we have investigated to craft a description of a new chocolate room in Willy Wonka's chocolate factory.

Preparation

- Revise the following techniques that we have explored over the last few weeks:
 - ◆ Prepositions (within the sentence and as a sentence starter)
 - ◆ The use of figurative devices to 'show' the scene: metaphor, simile, onomatopoeia.
 - ◆ Language connotations (creating a specific tone/mood in your writing through thinking about the associations your readers will make with the words you use).
 - ◆ Personification: giving non-human things and objects human feelings or actions.
- Read the passage below. In it, identify the strengths of the writing.

This extract is taken from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl.

My Wonka opened the door. Five children and nine-grown-ups pushed their way in – and *oh*, what an amazing sight it was that now met their eyes!

They were looking down upon a lovely valley. There were green meadows on either side of the valley, and along the bottom of it there flowed a great brown river.

What is more, there was a tremendous waterfall halfway along the river – a steep cliff over which the water curled and rolled in a solid sheet, and then went crashing down into a boiling churning whirlpool of froth and spray.

Below the waterfall (and this was the most astonishing sight of all), a whole mass of enormous glass pipes were dangling down into the river from somewhere high up in the ceiling! They really were *enormous*, those pipes. There must have been a dozen of them at least, and they were sucking up the brownish muddy water from the river and carrying it away to goodness knows where. And because they were made of glass, you could see the liquid flowing and bubbling along inside them, and above the noise of the waterfall, you could hear the never-ending suck-suck-sucking sound of the pipes as they did their work.

Graceful trees and bushes were growing along the riverbanks – weeping willows and alders and tall clumps of rhododendrons with their pink and red and mauve blossoms. In the meadows there were thousands of buttercups.

- Decide on your narrative point of view: first, second or third. Be prepared to justify why you have selected that particular POV- what does it do to enhance your description for the reader?
- Develop a sensory plan for your room. A template for this will be discussed in class and made available on the classroom blog page.
- Consider the most logical way to 'move your reader through the room'. You may want to have them interact with objects but this should only be to enhance the description of your scene. It should not be a main focus.
- Write your first draft. In this, focus on getting your ideas on the page as there will be plenty of time to come back and edit your work.

The Final Piece

- Your final piece should be between 500-700 words.
- You should spend a significant amount of time revising and editing your work. Ensure you have utilized the techniques we have explored over the past few weeks as best you can.
- It is expected that your writing will be organised into paragraphs and follow a logical structure.
- You will have 6 in class periods to work on your writing. You may not work on your writing at home. The last 2 lessons will be in the 'hands off' phase and your teacher will not be available to give feedback.
- Your final piece should be published on your English blog. If you wish to handwrite it, you will need to scan and upload it to your blog.

Advice

- You are advised to seek feedback throughout the drafting process.
- Use any means you need to in order to 'spark your imagination'. Look at images, watch video clips from the films, draw your chocolate room before you write it.
- Write what you know. You all have a unique outlook on the world. Use settings and surroundings that you are familiar with and give them the 'Willy Wonka Twist' treatment.