

8:4 Travel Writing



The Golden Idea

In this unit students will explore a variety of different extracts from travel writers, exploring the cultures and countries they write about and the techniques used to create vivid and engaging narratives.

The Golden Product

Students are working towards writing their own piece of travel writing, using a range of different techniques to create an engaging and believable narrative.

Our Golden Threads

| | |
|---|--|
| Planning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Develop idea chains by adding ideas to a basic idea<input type="checkbox"/> Planning out a complex structure such as a cyclical structure, metaphorical thread or zooming in/out. |
| Control of paragraph organisation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Clear use of single sentence paragraphs<input type="checkbox"/> Clear use of controlled paragraphs for shifts in focus |
| Sentence variation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Be able to vary sentence openers, and use at least three different types. |
| Control of purpose and tone in writing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Use of first person consistently<input type="checkbox"/> Use of anecdotal language<input type="checkbox"/> Use of a range of sensory details and vocabulary in order to create a vivid picture. |

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|-----------------|---------------|
| Homework | Seneca |
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| Wider Weblinks | How to write a travel article - BBC Bitesize |
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Thud. The plane hit the ground suddenly and I exhaled at long last, looking somewhat beetroot like in colour after holding my breath for what seemed like a century. Around me a round of applause began – something which would have baffled me had this not been my 3rd internal flight within Turkey, where the ever polite Turkish citizens thanked their pilot for each and every landing, no matter how clunky it seemed to me. As I left the cool, air-conditioned plane the heat of Cappadocia hit me and the fact that I was finally in this most magical, mystical place dawned on me. Cappadocia was somewhere I had always dreamed of visiting. It was a place of cavernous underground cities, of ancient churches carved into rock, but also somewhere that looked like it was from a sci-fi movie or some other world. It was to be my home for the next five days and I was bursting with excitement. ‘Taksi?’ interjected a local taxi driver, raising me from my reverie.



8.4 Knowledge Organiser – Travel Writing

Travel Writing:

The first ever travel writer might have been the Greek geographer Pausanias, who wrote *Hellados Periegesis*, or *Description of Greece* – what is now considered to be the oldest guidebook ever written; the first tome of the travel literature genre.

Travel writing, by definition, is **writing that describes places the author has visited and the experiences they had while travelling.**

While more traditional travel writing follows a **narrative** of one person's travels, modern travel writing has started to blur into a blog-style format, with a focus on advice, tips, and must-sees.

Key Terminology:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sensory Language | <input type="checkbox"/> Metaphors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Authentic Dialogue | <input type="checkbox"/> Anecdote |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pathetic Fallacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Tone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Person | <input type="checkbox"/> Structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Similes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adjectives | <input type="checkbox"/> Verbs |

Clever structures:

- Zooming in/out
- Shifting Locations
- Focussing on exotic/intricate details
- Including local speech
- Using extended metaphors
- Using a cyclical structure.

Sensory writing – 5+1

Writing which draws on all 5 senses is realistic and immersive (making you feel part of the story)

Synaesthesia and **metaphor**: the sharp taste of fear OR the dark taste of fear.

A writer can take an emotion or an abstract noun and treat it as if it is physical.

A writer can take a feeling and make it a sound or a sight or a taste instead.

Simple sentence

- 1** Subject
- 1** Verb

The boy ran.

Compound sentence

- 2** Subjects
- 2** Verbs

Joined together by **conjunctions**
The boy ran **and** the girl laughed.

Complex sentence

- 1** Independent clause
- 1** Embedded dependent clause

The boy, who was incredibly fast, ran.
The clock, which always told the right time, had stopped.

Complex sentence

- 1** Independent clause
- 1** Subordinating conjunction + dependent clause

Although the girl laughed, she was impressed.
The girl was impressed although she laughed.

Compound complex sentence

- 2** Independent clauses
- 1** Subordinating conjunction + dependent clause

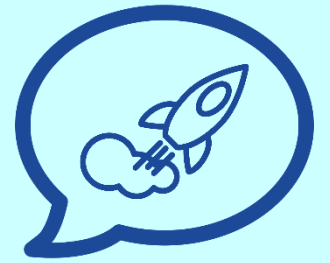
Although the girl laughed, she was impressed **and** felt proud of herself.
The clock, which always told the right time, had stopped and wasn't working.

Add **A SPICE** to your **SENTENCES!**

- Adjective** Scaring, shocking, boiling pain flooded his mouth!
- Simile** Like a volcano, the pain erupted.
- Preposition** In his mouth, the chillies danced.
- ing verb** Cursing and wailing, he dived for a glass of water.
- Connective** But there was hope!
- ed verb** Relieved, he drank the water.



8.4 Vocabulary Boost



Abyss

Noun

A deep, seemingly bottomless chasm (hole). Or a deep divide between two people.

Our relationship had sunk into the abyss years ago, but we plodded on regardless.

Convivial

Adjective

Friendly, lively and enjoyable atmosphere or personality.

The party was convivial and I left smiling to myself.

Corrugated

Adjective

A material which has ridges/grooves in it.

The rain trickled across the corrugated waves of the metal roof like a garden water feature.

Djinn

Noun

An invisible spirit, mentioned in the Koran, which appears in the form of humans and animals.

The bird appeared every morning on my windowsill like a Djinn sent to haunt me.

Exuded

Verb

To discharge something slowly or steadily. OR, to display an emotion strongly and openly.

She exuded calm, whilst I exuded panic.

Gratitude

Noun

Being thankful

The beggar was full of gratitude for the few pennies I had dropped in their hands and it made me realise how ungrateful I had been earlier on that day.

Mammoth

Noun/Adjective

A large extinct animal OR something huge.

I sighed at the sight of the mammoth pile of papers.

Perilous

Adjective

Dangerous or risky.

The cliff path was perilous and I was foolish to take it.

Portmanteau

Noun

A large travelling bag made of leather that has two sections. OR the merging of two words together (e.g. Brunch for breakfast and Lunch)

Our names made an awkward portmanteau but everyone referred to us as Daily instead of David and Lisa.

Start your thinking...

I felt

I checked

The first few moments were

My stomach was