

# Grade 6 English Language Arts

Week of Sept 28- Oct 2

**Curricular Area: Language – Descriptive Texts**

**Lesson Materials (Included in this PDF)**

- Lesson 1.1 A Sense of Place
- 1.1 Learning Guide

In this lesson, you will read, view, listen to, and create descriptive writing to learn:

- some parts of speech and literary devices used to make descriptive writing come to life
- how you can find evidence in descriptive writing to support your ideas
- characteristics of good descriptive writing
- how descriptive text and videos helps a reader visualize images in their mind

While exploring descriptive writing, you will be asked to think about communication:

- How do you like to communicate?
- How do you like to share information with others?
- What are some strategies you use to present information clearly and in an organized way?
- How do you like to show your learning?

## **Task**

Read through the lessons for Section 1.1 A Sense of Place in this Learning Guide. As you are reading the lesson pages, complete the activities in the Learning Guide. You can print the Learning Guide, or, copy out the questions onto a separate piece of paper.

**Be sure to spend time on independent reading practice with a book of your choice.**

## Lesson 1.1 – A Sense of Place

### Introduction

Reading a good description is like looking through a window into another world. Through the use of careful examples or details, an author can create a scene that vividly describes a person, place, or thing. The best descriptive writing appeals to multiple senses at once — smell, sight, taste, touch, and hearing. It uses imagery and literary devices that you will learn about and is found in both fiction and nonfiction.



In this unit, explore descriptive text "sense of place". Everyone has special places - places with deep meaning, memories, personal history, and cultural experiences that make a place special over time. People have memorable places where they have lived and places they may have only been to once but were left with a strong enough impression that place seems of importance. Through time, shared experiences, history, and stories help to connect places and people and to transmit a strong connection to place from generation to generation.

To what places are you or your family connected?

Through reading, viewing, and listening to descriptions, let's start our journey to some amazing places.

### 1.1A Descriptive Text

*What is the goal of descriptive writing? Where is descriptive writing used?*

Descriptive text creates a world for the reader to live in! Descriptive text is used in many kinds of fiction and non-fiction writing to describe a person, place, or thing.

- A journalist uses descriptive text to take the reader into real world places or situations.
- A science blogger uses descriptions to help readers make sense of the world or topic being written about.
- A historical fiction writer uses description to help immerse readers in a time period in order to connect with and understand that place and time.
- An advertising agency wants you to visualize the product they are selling to entice you to buy it.
- A fantasy writer uses descriptive text so you can see the unicorns galloping in the water.



**Imagery** is an important literary device that **creates a vivid description involving the senses**. We interact with our world using our senses, so it's the best way to convey to a reader what we are describing.

Your five senses refers to:

**Sight – Hearing – Touch – Taste – Smell**

[Click here to watch a video on Imagery](#)

Imagine a school day without electricity or plumbing, where drinking water had to be brought from a neighbouring farm and the washroom was a hole in the ground in a shed across the schoolyard. Imagine sharing a classroom with students of all ages, with brothers, sisters and cousins, and being taught year after year by the same teacher. As recently as 60 years ago, this was the reality of the rural education system, which was so dependent upon the one room schoolhouse. What was it like?

Descriptive text can help you to feel like you were there - to understand the sense of place that many older Canadians, especially from small towns, experienced.

[Click this link and read “Inside Edam, Saskatchewan’s One Room School”](#) and then answer the questions in your Learning Guide.

## 1.1 Learning Guide – A Sense of Place

Directions:

1. Remember, the descriptive text pattern has certain characteristics:

*The topic is clear. Attributes of the topic are described, and the details describe something important about the topic using sensory and figurative language.*

2. From the reading, what do you learn about the following:

a) The topic is

b) Three attributes of the one room school described are:

i)

ii)

iii)

c) As you read “Inside Edam, Saskatchewan’s One Room School”, record how the author has used each of the five senses (touch, taste, smell, sight, hearing). The first two are done for you.

<b>Sight</b>	White boarded school
<b>Hearing</b>	Crickets chirping
<b>Touch</b>	

<b>Taste</b>	
<b>Smell</b>	

2. How did Mr. Veenstra feel about this one-room school? How do you know?  
(Use key words from the questions to help you write a detailed, full sentence answer. Don't forget to use capitals and punctuation.)