

Flipped Learning Extension with Comprehension Illuminated: Volume I



Lesson 1: Descriptive Writing & Comprehension Skills

Lesson Goals

- Pick up >20 words to describe a person's appearance
- Read and appreciate a short descriptive text of a person
- Answer mini comprehension questions related to the text
- Apply new vocabulary words in a short descriptive paragraph
- Practise paraphrasing skills for comprehension and summary

Home-Based Self Study

Preparatory Tasks for Students (1 - 1.5 hours)

1. Complete pages 100 – 105 of *Comprehension Illuminated: Volume I*. (Available online)
2. Use the answer keys to help you if you are unsure.
3. Familiarise yourself with these 23 descriptive words before coming to class. You will be tested on your ability to apply them.
4. Of all the words you have learnt, which do you think can describe the following people? Fill in the circles below.

Someone very ill

Someone very old

Someone very tired

Application Activities

(1) Mini Reading Comprehension

Read the text below about a tired doctor working on the frontlines of a pandemic.

*Having donned her hazmat suit, Hafsa immediately transformed into another nameless and faceless medical worker. In fact, she was quite relieved that no one could see her face because it concealed her exhaustion. All that the others could make out from outside the bunny suit was her calm and mellow voice, but they could not see her hair **tousled** (pg 105) in sweat or her face **haggard** (pg 101) at the end of a ten-hour shift. When they got well enough to recover their speech, some of her patients would call her an 'angel in white'. This amused her because she had never felt more mortal — die-able and defenceless in a dangerous place at a dangerous time. Yet, if she didn't trust the suit to protect her, what else could she count on?*

1. What do these expressions tell us about Hafsa's appearance behind the hazmat suit?

Description	Hafsa's appearance
a) 'her hair tousled (pg 105) in sweat'	
b) 'haggard' (pg 101)	

2. Descriptive writing often uses imagery that appeals to our five senses. Write down an example of a) visual imagery and b) sound imagery from the text.

3. The writer uses contrast twice in the text. Identify any one instance of this.

4. What feeling is revealed through the rhetorical question at the end?

(2) Guided Descriptive Writing

You have learnt 23 descriptive words through self study. Try applying a few of them in this guided exercise.



With the help of the phrases below, write a short paragraph describing an elderly woman who reflects on her old age.

once immaculate (pg 105) kitchen now grimy wizened and shrivelled (pg 103)
withered (pg 103) hands tremble violently a tiny earthquake in a cup of tea
forehead creased with age a wiry (pg 103) gymnast in her younger days

It was her body, not her spirit that had aged. If only _____

Checking Your Work

Read your paragraph again, improving it with the help of this checklist.

- ☐ I have used the **past tense** consistently throughout the paragraph.
- ☐ I have accurately applied at least 4 **vocabulary words** (please highlight them).
- ☐ I have exchanged my writing with _____, who has given me feedback.

(3) Paraphrasing Practice

Rewrite the following expressions in your own words. You should not need to refer to *Comprehension Illuminated: Volume I* if you have done your preparation well.

Text	Paraphrased Text
the prisoners' ragged (pg 105) clothes	
flock to snap up cheap goods	
praised for his immaculate (pg 105) handwriting	
The presenter's use of that hideous (pg 103) colour scheme annoyed me	
the student was scolded for his long and unkempt (pg 105) hair	
her face was sallow (pg 101) and shiny with sweat	
be responsible for our actions	
The leaves shrivel (pg 103) and the plant ceases to grow	
Anorexia and bulimia can cause youths to become emaciated (pg 101)	

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