

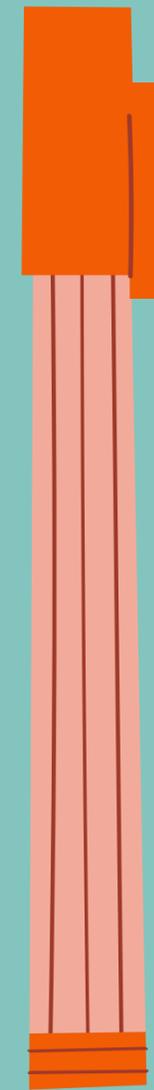
3 STORY STARTER QUESTIONS

Scholarship Week 1

WALL

SCHOLARLY WRITING:

Mastering Descriptive
and Narrative
Techniques

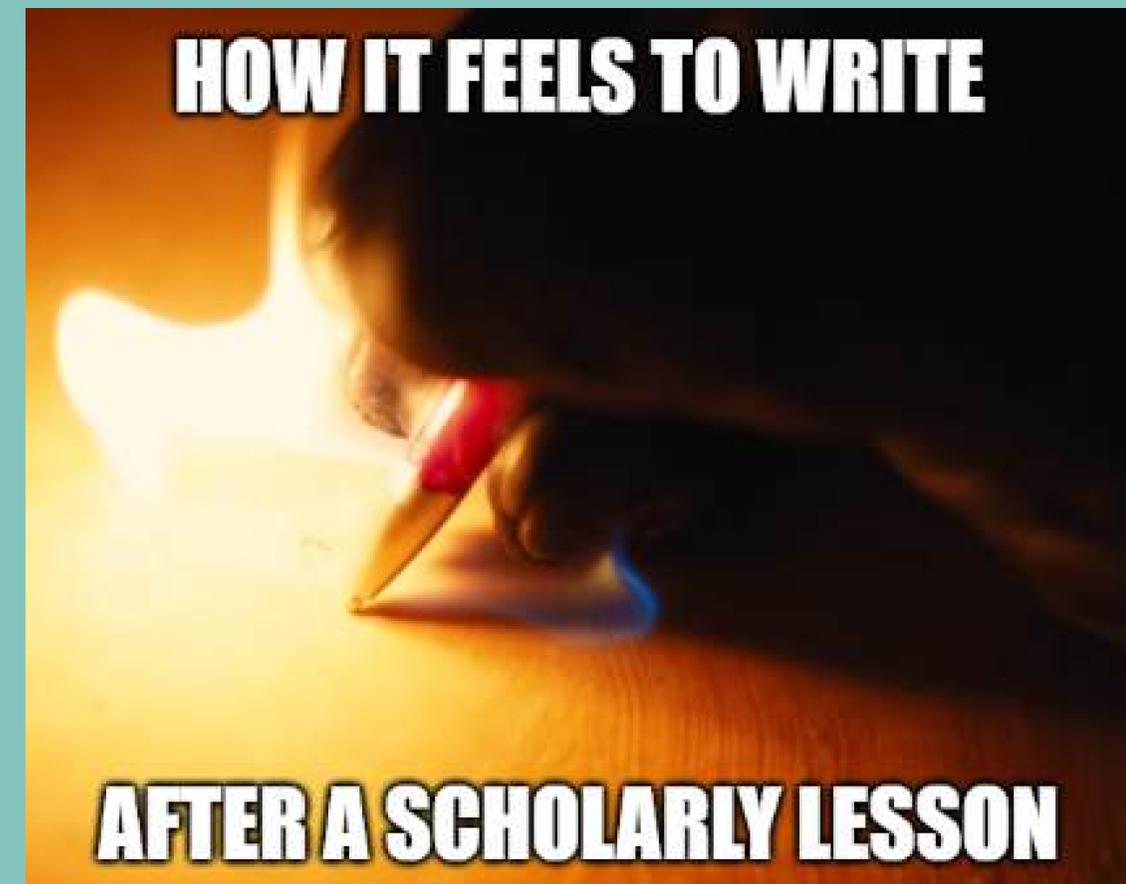


The “On Another Level” Agenda

DOOR

1. How to analyse a carpet and describe it like Virginia Woolf.
2. Why analysing a carpet will unlock your narrative potential.
3. Truckloads of magical sentences.
4. The keys to scholarship writing: CREVASSE and DESCRIPTIVE techniques.
5. How to write 20/20 introductions.
6. How to write metaphors and personification for days.
7. The 'On Another Level' vocabulary list.

OCEAN



PLAYFUL CHILD- youthful,
shining morning face,
beaming smile,
mischievous grin, dancing,
cavorting about-
shapeshifting, whimsical,
bouncing off the walls

The Secrets to Narrative Writing Can Be Found in a Carpet

Irritable, morose, annoying, not
Livid, stubborn

A carpet holds stories,
textures, and emotions. By
analysing it, we can unlock

GRUMPY OLD MAN,
wrinkled, creased, bumpy,
blemish, mole-ridden,
hairy, saggy skin

Pink flamingos, citrusy
orange, lemon yellow
STORM



Rough, gruff texture

ANTHROPOMORPHISM Introducing CREVASSE

ANIMALS (flamboyant peacock PERSON
Silky fur of a leopard, butterfly) ANIMAL

1: What is CREVASSE?

(CHARACTERISTICS)

Colourful, Rich, Engaging, Vivid, Aesthetic, Sensory,
Sensitive, Evocative.

ESSENCE/SOUL

VERMILLION
BURGUNDY
OBSIDIAN
CRIMSON

Remember it
by thinking of
the small
crevasses of a
carpet!

FOOD, MUSIC, FRUIT), BLIND
PERFUME (FLOWERS

LOUD, pungent,
heavy
redolence,
sweetness
fairy floss,
cotton candy,
marshmallows



Introducing CREVASSE

2: Understanding the Elements of CREVASSE:

- **Colourful:** Use vivid and descriptive language.
- **Rich:** Add detail and emotion.
- **Engaging:** Use active verbs and interesting adjectives.
- **Vivid:** Bring the scene to life with vivid imagery.
- **Aesthetic:** Make it pleasing to the eye and ear.
- **Sensory:** Engage the reader's senses.
- **Sensitive:** Be mindful of the reader's emotions.
- **Evocative:** Evoke strong feelings or memories.

CREVASSE in Action

5/6

Describing a Carpet

“The Persian carpet spread across the floor, its deep crimsons and indigos still bold against faded gold borders. Each worn patch and frayed edge marked decades of use, while the intricate geometric patterns drew the eye from one medallion to the next.”

Beautiful mathematical equation

Butterfly's wings

Pink Flamingo

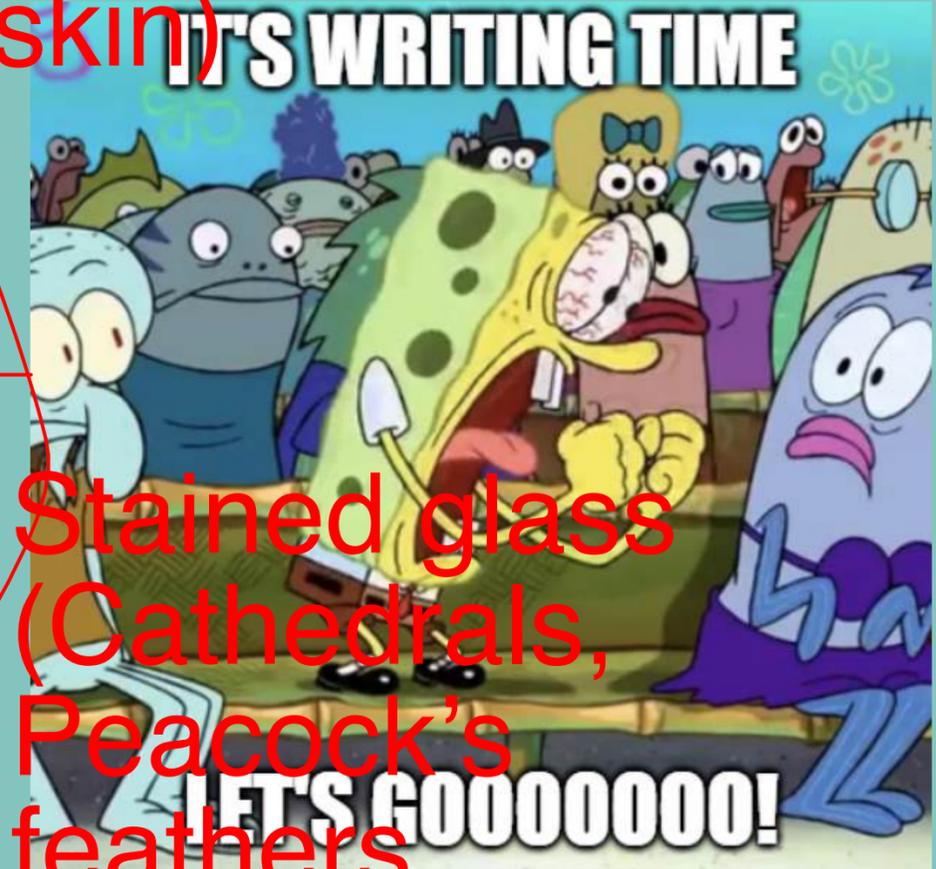
Citrus Orange

Swirling Pastels

Of a Renaissance Painting

Exercise: Rewrite this sentence using CREVASSE techniques.

Old man , elephant (leathery, worn, skin)



Stained glass (Cathedrals, Peacock's feathers)

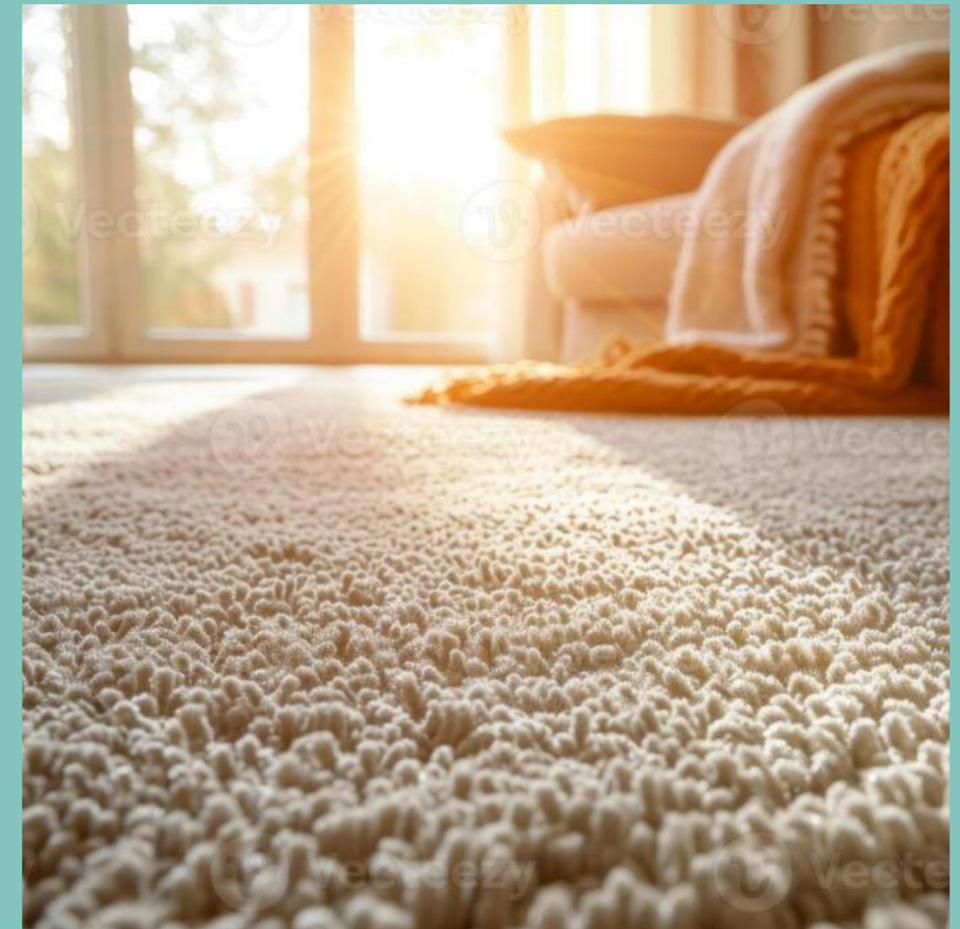
Melting of colours in a sunset (melting ice cream, crayons)

Personification and Metaphors

Personification Examples:

1. "The carpet guarded its corner of the living room, collecting fragments of daily life in its fibers like a patient observer."
2. "Each morning, the carpet greeted bare feet with its familiar texture—first coarse, then yielding."

Exercise: Write your own **personification** for a carpet.



Personification and Metaphors

Metaphor Examples:

- "The carpet was a family album, recording twenty years of spilled coffee, muddy shoes, and holiday gatherings in its worn patches."
- "The carpet served as a foundation, anchoring furniture and framing conversations like punctuation marks on a page."



Exercise: Write your own **metaphor** for a carpet.

DESCRIPTIVE Formula

- **D:** Descriptive Adjective
- **E:** Noun describing the object
- **S:** Verb or phrase describing how the object looks, feels, or acts
- **C:** Adjective or phrase creating a vivid image
- **R:** Metaphor or personification bringing the object to life
- **I:** Imagination to make the sentence come alive
- **P:** Powerful language that engages the reader
- **T:** Tone that fits the subject
- **I:** Interesting details that make the sentence unique
- **V:** Vivid imagery that creates a picture in the reader's mind
- **E:** Evocative words that evoke emotion.



DESCRIPTIVE in Action

Describing a Carpet

"The Moroccan rug dominated the study with its geometric precision, each diamond motif rendered in indigo and rust against cream wool. Despite its weathered borders and sun-bleached patches, the carpet maintained its authoritative presence, defining the room's character through its measured repetition of ancient patterns."



Exercise: Write your own **DESCRIPTIVE** sentence about a carpet.

Vocabulary List – Carpet Edition

- **Texture & Condition:**

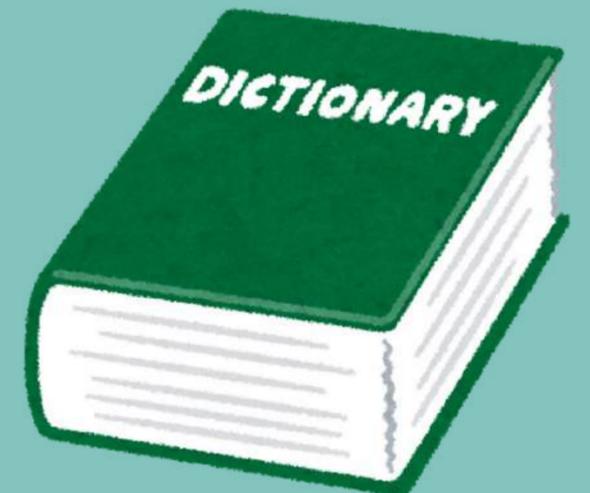
- Abraded, burnished, distressed, felted, matted, threadbare, tufted, woven
- Plush, friable, tenuous, fulled, raveled, supple, dense, gossamer
- Coarse, attenuated, frayed, diaphanous, robust, brittle, tactile
- Compacted, resilient, yielding, deteriorated, pristine

- **Pattern & Design:**

- Arabesque, byzantine, cartouche, medallion, motif, ogee, palmette, tessellated
- Reciprocal, meandering, latticed, reticulated, symmetrical, kaleidoscopic
- Boteh, scrollwork, guilloche, rosette, foliate, geometric, linear
- Interlaced, serpentine, labyrinthine, dendrite, cellular, recursive

- **Color & Appearance:**

- Heathered, iridescent, lustrous, mottled, patinated, variegated
- Oxidized, chromatic, saturated, subdued, lambent, pellucid
- Luminous, prismatic, opalescent, translucent, resplendent
- Ethereal, refulgent, burnished, mordant, ombré



Vocabulary List – Carpet Edition

- **Structure & Composition:**

- Selvage, pile, warp, weft, weave, nap, fiber, foundation
- Verdure, abrash, kilim, soumak, flatweave, pile-woven
- Knotted, looped, twisted, corded, braided, spun
- Mercerized, worsted, filament, strand, yarn, skein

- **Age & Character:**

- Antiqued, time-worn, weathered, seasoned, preserved, enduring
- Venerable, archaic, primordial, ancestral, timeless
- Storied, perdurable, persistent, resolute, steadfast
- Vestigial, residual, perennial, sempiternal, immemorial

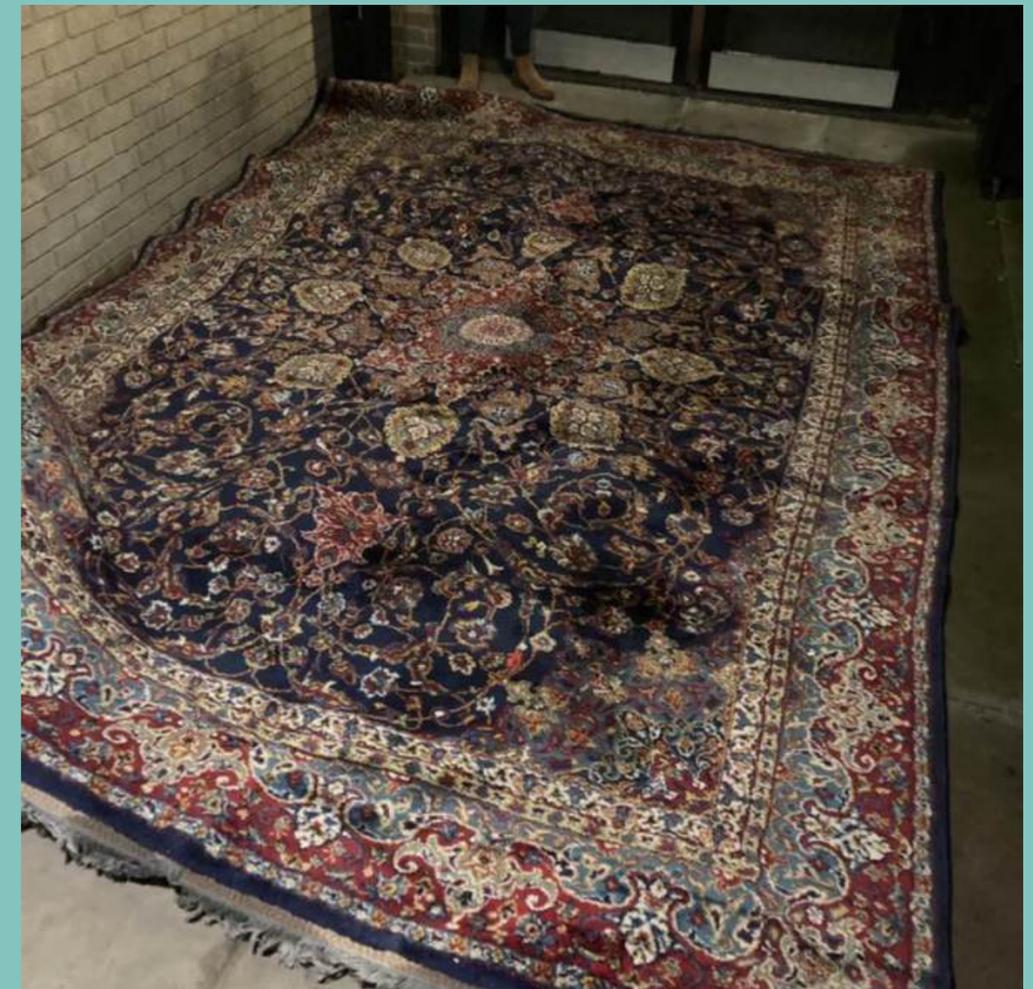


Writing Your Own CREVASSE Sentences

Prompts:

1. If you have one, describe a carpet in your living room.
2. Imagine and describe the texture of a carpet under your feet.
3. Describe a carpet in an old, abandoned house.

Exercise: Write a CREVASSE sentence for each prompt.



Exemplar Narrative – The Carpet

"The Herati carpet commanded the library's center, its repeated diamond medallions creating a measured rhythm across the wool surface. Under pendant lights, the sapphire borders framed a field of deep crimson, where time had softened the dyes to reveal subtle variations—rust here, burgundy there. The central medallion bore a patina of wear from three generations of reading chairs, while corner paths had been burnished to a gentle sheen by daily passage. Against the oak floorboards, its dense pile absorbed footfalls and collected shadows, lending the room both gravity and warmth. Even the crisp selvage edges, pristine despite their years, testified to the weaver's mastery, each knot contributing to this document of both artistry and time."

Exercise: Write your own 200-word narrative about a carpet.

Adapting Techniques to Other Subjects

- The techniques you've learned (CREVASSE, DESCRIPTIVE, metaphors, personification) can be applied to any subject!
- **Examples:**
 - **Grandfather Clock:** "The clock marked time in the hallway's shadows, its brass pendulum cutting golden arcs through dust-filled air."
 - **Victorian Desk:** "The rosewood desk held court in the study corner, its leather inlay crossed with the scars of a hundred letters."
 - **Garden Gate:** "The iron gate stood between two worlds, its weathered scrollwork collecting dew like precious stones each morning."

Exercise: Choose a new subject (e.g., a sofa, a park, a mountain) and write a **CREVASSE** sentence.