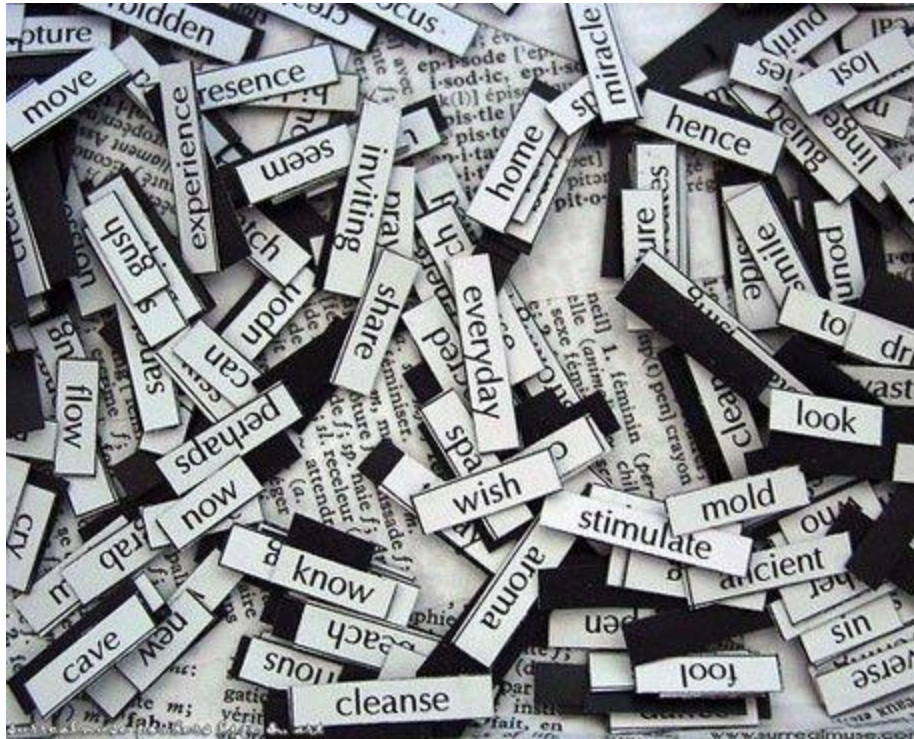


Using Concrete Language

Paint a picture with words



A picture is worth a 1,000 words *unless it is a picture painted with words.*
It is worth 2,000 words. – Ann Newman

What are concrete words?

- Sight
- Sound
- Smell
- Taste
- Touch

Directions: Work with a classmate to make a list of concrete words and phrases that refer to the senses. For example, *shiny, red dress* appeals to sight, while *the buzzing yellow and brown bees circling the hive* appeals to sight and sound.

Model

Description Paragraph Organized According to Space

Attention-getting
statement

Sight, sound, and
touch

Organized according
to space (see note
below)

Factual
details

Angela's Pizza Place looks as though it has been here forever. On the **outside**, there is an old neon sign that buzzes and flickers against the peeling white paint on the rough brick wall. **Inside**, an antique espresso machine sits like a brass robot guarding the front door. The walls are covered with pictures showing Italian street scenes that Angela's brother painted more than 50 years ago when he was an art student. Angela's tables are topped with red and white linoleum patterned to look like old-fashioned checkered tablecloths. Some are so worn that all the red checks have been rubbed off around the tables' edges by the bellies of happy customers. Imitation Tiffany lamps hang over each table and send multicolored flecks of light dancing across the room and along the painted Italian street scenes.

Exercise

Directions: Work in pairs, with one student sitting in front of another student. The student behind will describe an object in words. Based only on what is said, the student in front draws the object. At the end of the exercise, students display what they have drawn.