



LQ: Why is it  
important to  
effectively describe  
a setting?

YEAR 8: CREATIVE WRITING

# Today's Key Word: Panoramic

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**Definition:** (of a view or picture) with a wide view surrounding the observer; sweeping.

**How to use in today's lesson:** Consider how you can use language to describe a setting in a **panoramic** perspective.





# Retrieval Questions:

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1. What was the genre of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy?
1. Name one language device that the writer used to represent this genre
1. **Challenge:** Why does reading help to improve Creative Writing?



# What type of setting do you think each of these titles might suit?

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ISOLATION



THE  
HAUNTING



ABANDONED



THE KEY

What features might you  
comment on in this image?



# How has Stevenson used language to present the setting of Jekyll & Hyde?

It was by this time about nine in the morning, and the first fog of the season. A great chocolate-coloured pall lowered over heaven, but the wind was continually charging and routing these embattled vapours; so that as the cab crawled from street to street, Mr. Utterson beheld a marvelous number of degrees and hues of twilight; for here it would be dark like the back-end of evening; and there would be a glow of a rich, lurid brown, like the light of some strange conflagration; and here, for a moment, the fog would be quite broken up, and a haggard shaft of daylight would glance in between the swirling wreaths. The dismal quarter of Soho seen under these changing glimpses, with its muddy ways, and slatternly passengers, and its lamps, which had never been extinguished or had been kindled afresh to combat this mournful reinvasion of darkness, seemed, in the lawyer's eyes, like a district of some city in a nightmare. The thoughts of his mind, besides, were of the gloomiest dye; and when he glanced at the companion of his drive, he was conscious of some touch of that terror of the law and the law's officers, which may at times assail the most honest.





# Atmospheric Hook

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When you begin starting a story with a description of the environment it is referred to as an **atmospheric hook**.

Why do you think that describing the atmosphere at the start of a story is an effective strategy that writer use to engage readers?

# Task: Describing and environment

Write a descriptive paragraph describing the school.

You can decide to do your description either when students are in school or after they have all left.

You need to be creative with your descriptions – try to be over the top with your description and make it incredibly creative and metaphorical.