

How an author uses language and illustrations to portray characters...

discuss how an author uses language and illustrations to portray characters and settings in texts, and explore how the settings and events influence the mood of the narrative

Learning intention

- discuss how an author uses language and illustrations to portray characters and settings in texts, and explore how the settings and events influence the mood of...

Teach and model

- identifying and discussing how the use of descriptive language creates setting and influences atmosphere, and draws readers into events that follow; for example, "The..."
- discussing the language used to describe the traits of characters in stories, their actions and motivations; for example, "Claire was so lonely; she desperately wanted a pet, so she..."

Check understanding

- Explain the main idea in how an author uses language and illustrations to portray characters... using an example.
- Show the idea in a second way: with words, a model, a diagram or symbols.
- Apply the idea to a short unfamiliar situation and justify the result.

Teaching cautions

- Ask the student to explain their choice, not only state an answer.
- Check that key vocabulary is understood in a new example.
- Mix representations so the skill is transferred rather than copied.

Quick lesson sequence

- Connect to prior knowledge and introduce the key vocabulary.
- Model one clear example, then solve a second example together.
- Finish with an independent check and a short student explanation.