

You will write two (2) paragraphs today. In the first paragraph, write a summary of the article, "Our Cottage" from p. 50 of our book. Then write a transitional sentence that takes the reader from your summary to the new paragraph. For example: Like the author of "Our Cottage," I had/have a special place... Then in your second paragraph, write about a special place that you have now OR had in the past with your family. Describe this memorable place and what it looked like -- use details to paint a picture for your reader and to describe why this room was or is so special.

1. Start by pre-writing on the topic! You can outline, free-write, or cluster before you write. In a paragraph such as this one, it sometimes helps to make a rough sketch (drawing). **Plan** your paragraph.

Please put a heading in the upper corner with: your name, the class, the date, and the assignment (Description). Write ONE **title** that gets the reader's attention; center it; capitalize **all** important words

2. In your TS, be sure to tell what you are describing and the dominant impression (emotion or feeling) of this place.

3. In the body of your paragraph, describe the room as you remember it. Use spatial organization to organize the details of your description – but each detail should remind the reader of the controlling idea and tell why this room was or is so special.

- Start with a TS containing the *dominant impression* of this room. Then use your supporting details to further develop this dominant impression. For example, IF you were writing about the warm kitchen, you might use words that told the reader of the warm colors, the warm smells, the warm feelings, and/or the warm sharing that went on in your kitchen.
- Remember that a good description appeals to the five senses: sight, taste, touch, hearing and smell. Try to use appealing sensory details.

4. Even though this room probably still exists, you may use **past tense** to describe it – IF you are describing a room from the past. (That place may have changed!) If you still go to this place, you can use the present.

5. After reading your description, I should be able to draw a picture of the room that you are describing. I should understand why this room has such a strong memory for you. Be sure to use plenty of adjectives, adverbs, phrases and clauses. Make sure that your writing has some variety. You are *painting a picture with your words!* **Extra points** will be given for creative use of figurative language.

6. After reading your paragraph, I should be able to understand why you chose this room and why this room was or is so special. Use at least **three (3) adjective clauses** in your description. Underline them in your paragraph.

7. Before you print, check these things:

- Each sentence has an S and V
- sentence structure (no fragments or run-ons)
- sensory details are used
- CS restates the DI

8. Read over your writing one last time. Make any changes. When you are satisfied with your work, print it out. Turn in: your paragraph and this sheet.

/1	Topic Sentence = T + CI	/1	Unclear/Incomprehensible ideas
/1	Paragraph Development/Sensory Details	/1	WC/WF/WO/MW
/1	Logic and Coherence/Transitions/Adj Cl	/1	VT /VF/SV agreement
/1	Concluding Sentence	/1	Sentence structure/RO/Frags
/1	Language Use and Expression	/1	Minor errors

Comments: