

L1: To describe a setting



Imagine you are one of the 7 Athenian boys or girls who was chosen to go and be sacrificed to the Minotaur. After several days at sea, you are just arriving into the harbour in Crete. Today, your task is to write a description of what you see as you approach the harbour. Look at mine below, for some ideas. Highlight the words you like that you want to use in your own description.

To be successful you must:

- Use the senses to describe: What can be seen, heard, felt, smelt?
- Write in the PRESENT tense.
- Use similes and metaphors. Here are some ideas to get you started. Remember, similes and metaphors describe things like they are something else! EG: The tall lighthouse is like a soldier standing guard.

The sea is like.....

The tall lighthouse is

The sun is.....

In the distance the mountains are like.....

After 5 days at sea, I am pleased to finally be able to see land, even if that does mean that I'll soon be dead! I stand up in the rickety boat and take a look around. The hot sun beats down on me like I am in an oven. Surely, it's hotter here than in Athens? All around the boat, the sea is a glistening blanket. So near to the harbour, the surface is as smooth as marble table top. The harbour walls are old and crumbling like bread in some places. The lighthouse is a soldier, standing at the end of the harbour wall, waiting for dark. I can hear shouts from the nearby sailors, preparing their boats and hoisting sails. The air smells like the sea, salty and fishy. Beyond the harbour, the mountains reach into the distant clouds. Somewhere up there, the Minotaur waits for us...