

# Learning Objectives

- To practise our descriptive writing skills to create effective settings

Key words:

Metaphor

Simile

Personification

Synonym

# Starter (5 minutes)

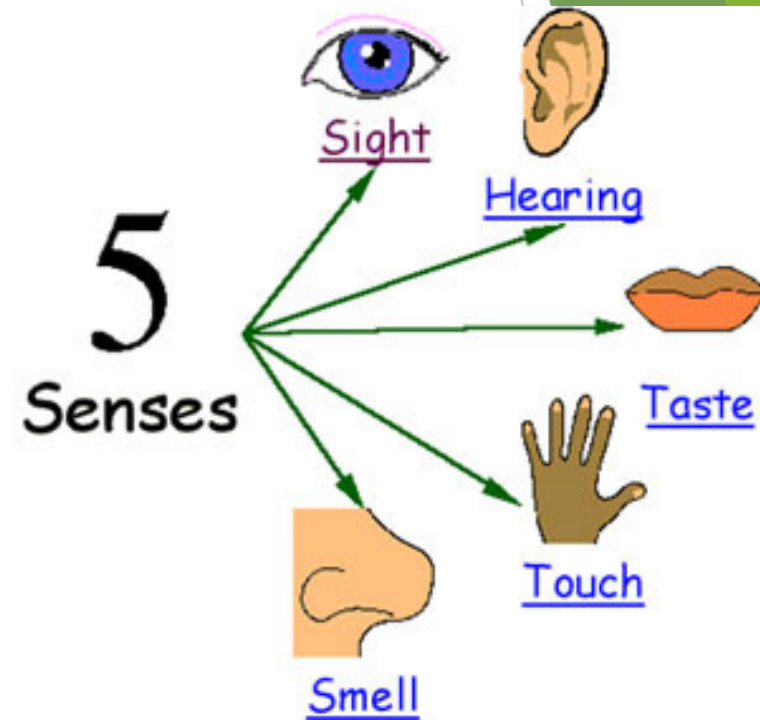
Below are some very boring and nondescript words. How many synonyms can you think of for each?

Synonym - A **synonym** is a word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another word or phrase in the same language

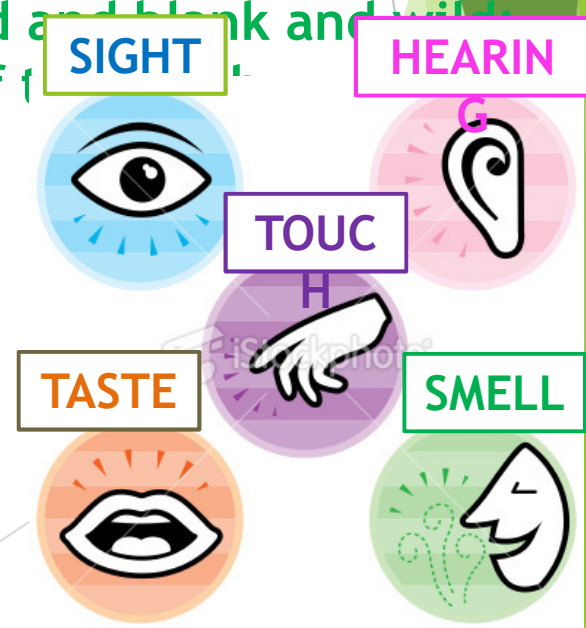
HOT BAD		COLD		GOOD
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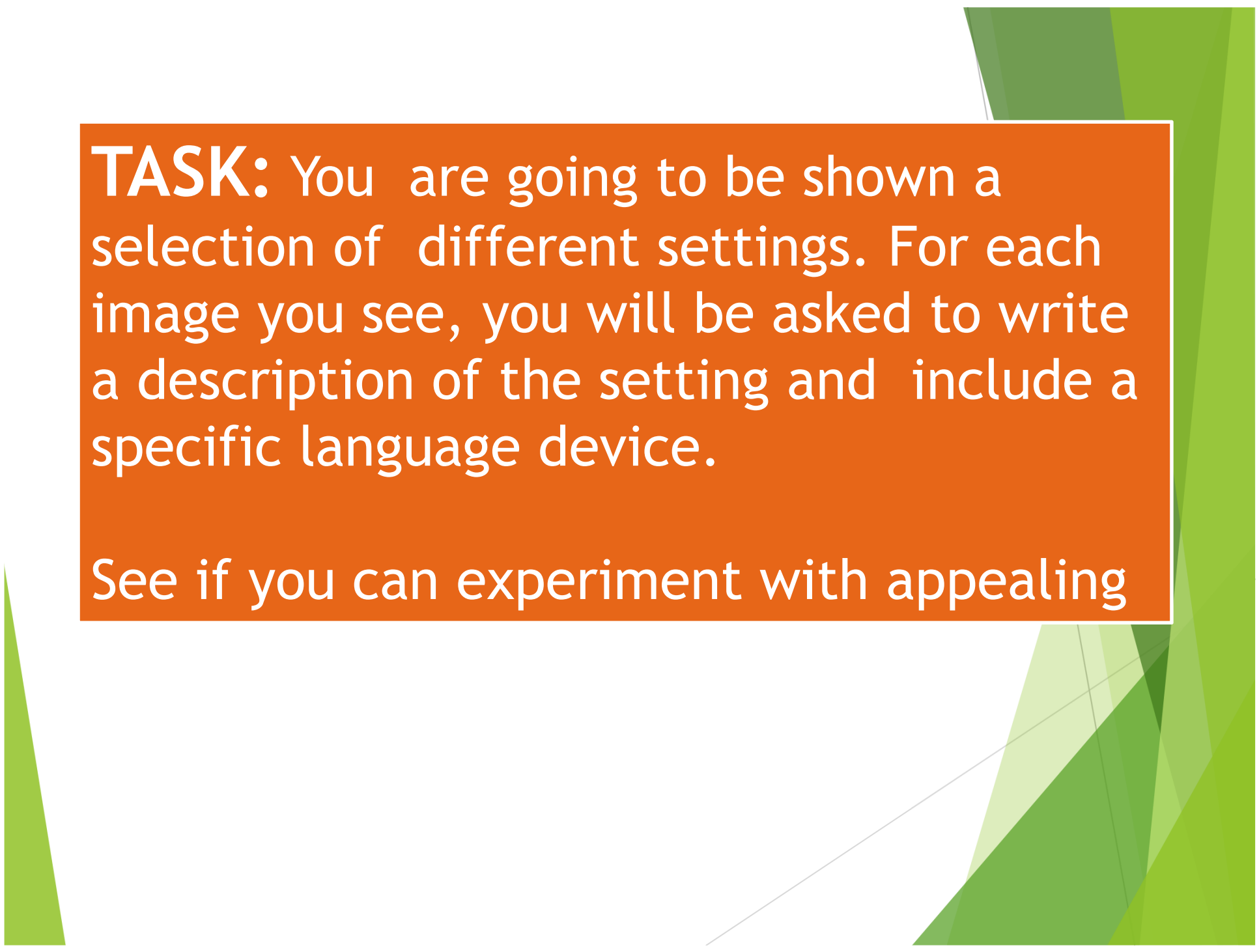
# Setting

- ▶ When you write about a setting, you need to make sure you use lots of description so a reader can picture themselves there.
- ▶ Effective descriptions appeal to the senses.



One morning there was a different smell in the air, and the ship was moving oddly, with a brisker rocking from side to side instead of the plunging and soaring. Lyra was on deck a minute after she woke up, gazing greedily at the land: such a strange sight, after all that water, for though they had only been at sea a few days, Lyra felt as if they'd been on the ocean for months. Directly ahead of the ship a mountain rose, green-flanked and snow capped, and a little town and harbour lay below it: wooden houses with steep roofs, an oratory spire, cranes in the harbour, and clouds of gulls wheeling and crying. The smell was of fish, but mixed with it came land smells too: pine-resin and earth and something animal and musky, and something else that was cold and blank and wild; it might have been snow. It was the smell of f  
Seals frisked around the ship, showing their clown-faces above the water before sinking back without a splash. The wind that lifted spray off the white-capped waves was monstrously cold, and searched out every gap in Lyra's wolfskin.

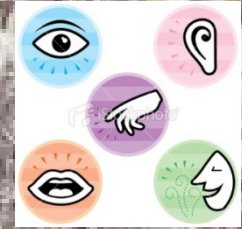


The background features several overlapping, semi-transparent green geometric shapes, including triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern, abstract design.

**TASK:** You are going to be shown a selection of different settings. For each image you see, you will be asked to write a description of the setting and include a specific language device.

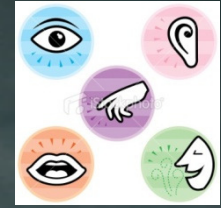
See if you can experiment with appealing

**Vocabulary ideas:**  
dilapidated, overgrown,  
wilderness, lonely,  
broken.



Describe this setting. You must include a simile  
(comparing two things using *like* or *as e.g. The  
house shrivels and rots like a piece of  
discarded fruit*).

**Vocabulary ideas:** Menacing, abandoned, hostile, tragic, rotten



**Describe this setting. You must include an example of personification (e.g. *the clouds scowled*)**

# Creating effective setting

- ▶ To practise our descriptive writing skills to create an effective setting for a spooky story.

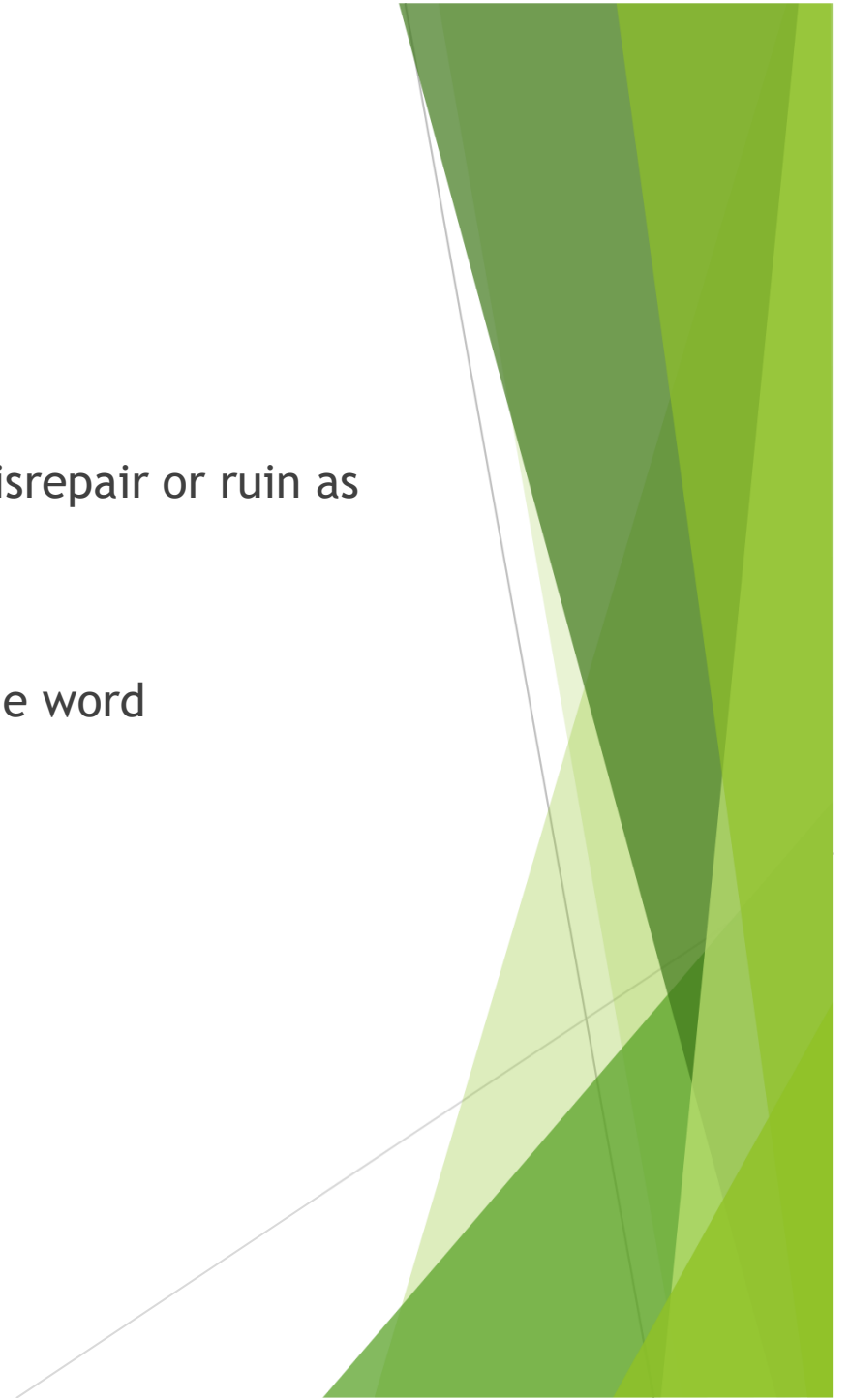
Starter - How many words can you make from the word

dilapidated



# Dilapidated

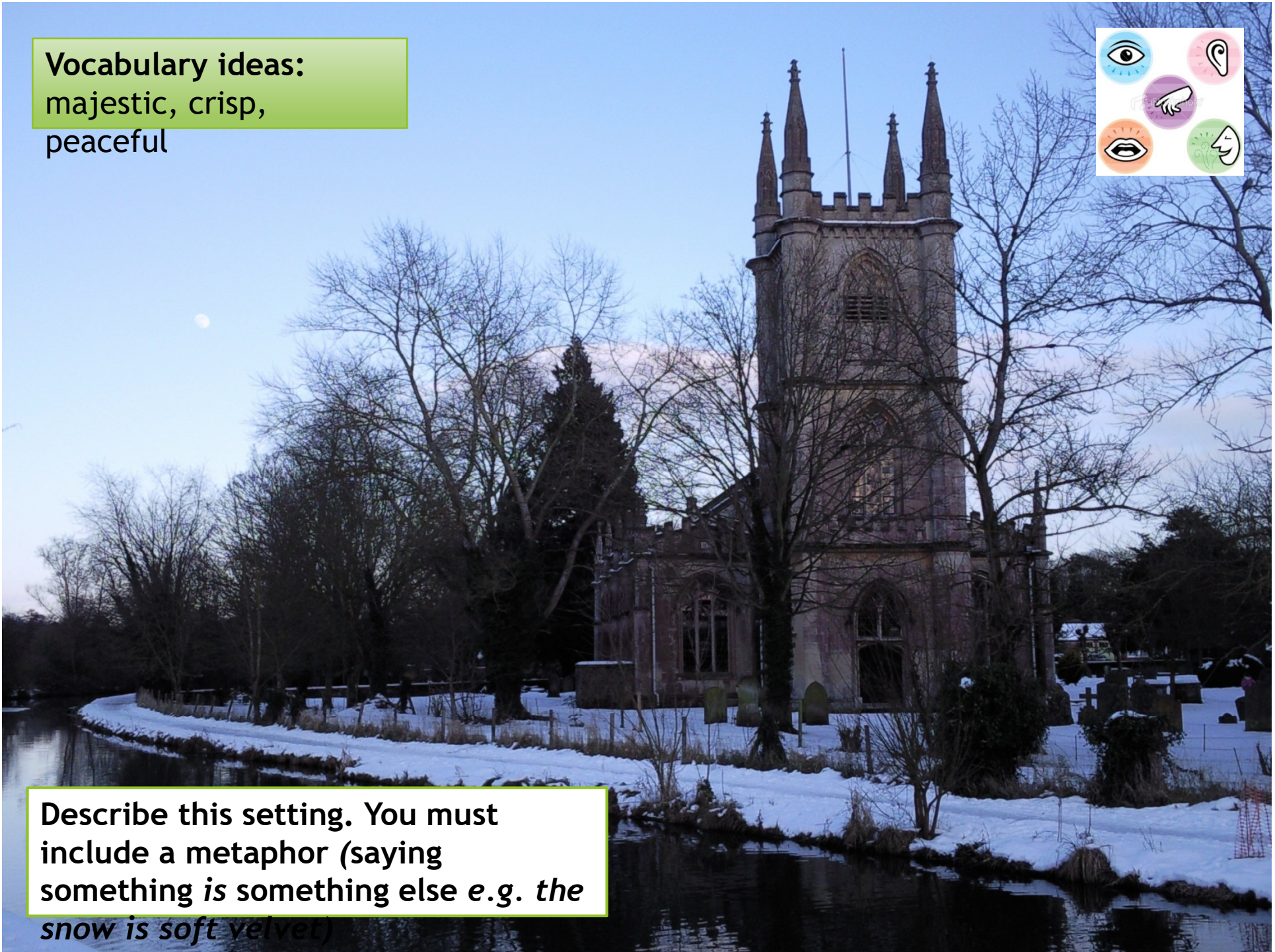
- ▶ (of a building or object) in a state of disrepair or ruin as a result of age or neglect.
- ▶ Create a sentence of your own using the word dilapidated.



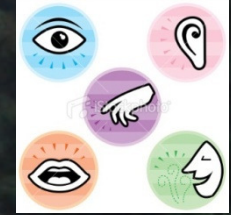
**Vocabulary ideas:**  
majestic, crisp,  
peaceful



**Describe this setting. You must include a metaphor (saying something *is* something else e.g. *the snow is soft velvet*)**



**Vocabulary ideas:**  
powerful, relentless,  
meanders , unforgiving



**Describe this setting. You must include a simile (comparing two things using *like* or *as* e.g. *The rocks jut out like...*).**

**Vocabulary ideas:**  
Sinister, Menacing, Evil,  
Intimidating



**Describe this setting. You must include a simile (comparing two things using *like* or *as* e.g. *The walls crumbled like hot ash.***

**TASK:** Pick a setting from the images for your story. You can use the images below to help you.

You must include a simile

Remember to show NOT tell.



# Self assessment

Read through your paragraph. Have you included:

- ✓ Interesting verbs
- ✓ Interesting adverbs
- ✓ A simile
- ✓ A metaphor
- ✓ Which senses have you appealed to?

My ghost/monster creation.

Dracula can see in the dark. **His eyes are black marbles.**

Dracula eyebrows are **like caterpillars.**



Dracula lives in a deserted castle situated in the middle of a haunted forest.

Dracula survives by drinking the blood of other people. He gets this by biting their necks. **His teeth are as sharp as blades.**

Dracula wears black. **His cape is as black as coal.**

You must have at least ten points about your character.