Sensory Imagery in Poetry

Create a picture with your words…

- Imagery that uses your five senses

- Hearing

- Smelling

- Tasting

- Feeling

- Seeing

What is *sensory* **imagery?**

- Try to "show" readers what you want them to see through words.
- The more descriptive your words, the more imagery your writing will create.
- Imagery is the way a poet or author puts words together to create a picture for the reader.

IMAGERY is not for the weak-minded

- The rain came down from the sky.

- In this example, could you see the rain in your mind? Could you feel it? Did this create a picture in your head as you read it? Do you think your picture was close to everyone else's picture in his/her head? Why or why not?

Let's look at some examples

- Bitter rain drizzled in silent drops from the ashen gray above.

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- Could you see the rain in your mind? Could you feel it? Did this create a picture in your head as you read it? Do you think your picture was close to everyone else's picture in his/her head? Why or why not?

Another example

- *The rain came down from the sky.*

- *Bitter rain drizzled in silent drops from the ashen gray above.*

- Why? What words helped create a clearer, stronger picture?
- Imagery uses STRONG words to describe an image. It helps CREATE the picture for you.

Which one of the two examples described the rainstorm in a more descriptive way?

- Now, it's time for you to try to use imagery.
- Get your pencil and paper ready.

YOUR TURN

- Try to picture the rainstorm in your mind and describe exactly what you see, hear, smell, feel, or taste.
- Free-write ideas about these 5 senses before you write anything else:
  - What do you see?
  - What do you hear?
  - What do you smell?
  - What can you feel?
  - Do you taste anything?

Close your EYES and IMAGINE a rainstorm…

- Now take what you've written and put it into poetic form.
- Take the strongest images from your free-write and try to "create" the rainstorm through a poem.
- Have fun with your poem. Practice those strong images and sensory imagery!
- Your poem DOES NOT have to rhyme. ☺

Put it in poetry