

Narrative Writing Annotated

Example Poster

The Quest for the Raindrop of Life Excerpt

The sun **dazzled**¹ in the sky above the **Burrow**⁶ on yet another **splendid**¹ summer day. **Slumped**¹ against a tree, **ten-year-old**² Kian **flicked**¹ lazily through his favourite book. His **brown curls**² flopped down over his **crystal blue eyes**² and he blew them away with a half-hearted puff.

In the distance³, **faint sounds**⁴ of village life could be **heard**⁴. The local children played happily on their bicycles while their parents bustled about their daily chores of **cleaning, cooking and mending**⁵. Out in the **farmers**⁵ fields, workers were dutifully harvesting fresh crops and loading up their carts ready for market. **The Burrow**⁶ was a **picture of perfection**⁷ and Kian was **contently enjoying**⁷ another day in **paradise**⁷, completely **unaware of what was about to happen**⁷.

Suddenly⁸, Kian heard the approaching clip-clopping of a **horse's**⁹ hooves. He looked up and saw a man wearing a tall, pointy hat and flowing cloak riding towards him. **It was Irwin!**¹⁰ Kian leapt to his feet and rushed towards the wizard. **For years**⁹, Irwin had been coming to the Burrow and telling them all stories of his great adventures. As Kian **skipped**¹¹ through the long grass towards the **special visitor**¹¹ he wondered what daring adventure Irwin would tell him about today. Irwin slowed his horse, jumped down and swept Kian into a **tight embrace**¹¹. Kian pushed the wizard away and **laughed**¹¹.

"Hey, I'm not a baby anymore!"¹²

"I know, I know," Irwin replied. "It's just so good to see you."¹²

Text Structure: Character; setting is introduced first.

Paragraph 2: Focussed on one idea; description of setting to set up conflict/resolution.

Paragraph 3: Focussed on one idea; arrival of the wizard.

¹Vocabulary: Interesting descriptive words relating to theme.

²Character: Distinct character, clear initial description. Inferred, 'read lazily', 'slumped', 'flopped'.

³Cohesion: Connecting device – place.

⁴Audience: Using the senses to engage reader.

⁵Punctuation: Commas, list apostrophe possessive timeframe.

⁶Setting: Name: Burrow, second paragraph describes setting and sets scene.

⁷Ideas: Moving story forward, established life is perfect so something will go wrong.

⁸Cohesion: Connecting device – time.

⁹Punctuation: Apostrophe possessive. Comma, frontal adverbial.

¹⁰Sentence Structure: Short sentence, exclamation for impact.

¹¹Audience: Tone.

¹²Sentence Structure: Dialogue correctly formatted. Exclamation mark for emphasis.