

12-Window-Writing

1. Divide your paper into 12 “windows”
2. In the first window think of something that you’ve seen outside that is amazing, beautiful, interesting or that has just stayed in your mind. Close your eyes and try to see it as clearly as a photograph – notice all the details about it – describe it in the window as accurately as you can.
3. In window two – look at the same image as in the first room, but just focus on the quality of the light. For example: is the sun bright? Or is it a dull flat day? Are there any shadows? If it’s unclear what the light is like you might have to use some poetic license and make it up... You can also describe colors. Or if your image is the stars describe their light.
4. In window three- picture the same image and focus on the sounds... Are there any voices? Rustling of leaves? Sound of rain? If it’s silent – what kind of silence? Empty? Lonely? Peaceful?
5. In window four – same image but focus on the smells. Is there something baking? A stinky sock... etc.
6. In window five – focus on texture/touch of what’s around you/in the image... the pigskin of the football... the cold hard metal of the saxophone... the sticky sweat on the horse’s back
7. In window six – describe tastes – dust on your tongue...
8. In window seven – Think of three different similes or metaphors to describe the image
9. window 8 - Think of a quote or line from another poem/movie/book that you might be able to weave into your writing
10. In window nine write down any questions you have about the image – anything you want to know more about? Or wonder about?
11. In window 10 write down any feelings you have about this image
12. window 11 – write down the feelings of the other people in the image/if you are alone – why are you alone – where are the other people?
13. window 12 – look over the other 11 windows and choose one word or short phrase that you really like and repeat it three times
14. Now, using your 12 windows – write a poem or other writing filled with imagery... you can rearrange the windows, delete words, phrases or entire windows... have fun, make it interesting...