

In the whole world there can be no more dreary view than that from the northern slope of the Sierra Blanco. As far as the eye can reach stretches the great flat plain-land, all dusted over with patches of alkali, and intersected by clumps of the dwarfish chaparral bushes. On the extreme verge of the horizon lie a long chain of mountain peaks, with their rugged summits flecked with snow. In this great stretch of country there is no sign of life, nor of anything appertaining to life. There is no bird in the steel-blue heaven, no movement upon the dull, grey earth -- above all, there is absolute silence. Listen as one may, there is no shadow of a sound in all that mighty wilderness; nothing but silence -- complete and heart-subduing silence.

from Study in Scarlet by Arthur Conan Doyle

order of details? \_\_\_\_\_

point of view (i.e., where are you positioned)? \_\_\_\_\_

The necropolis was as barren as the desert. No wind whispered in a palm crown or rustled through grass. The shadows of rocks lay as long black fingers and threatening fists across his path. A jackal bayed the rising moon. Rahotep's sandal soles scuffed as he came upon stone pavement, the road leading up to the chapel. The scent of incense, of dying flowers, hung here, growing more noticeable as he advanced. Ahead was the gleam of a lamp, one of the small saucer type for the table of sacrifice. Rahotep kicked off his sandals, not only for reasons of reverence; bare skin on stone and sand was noiseless. from Shadow Hawk by Andre Norton

order of details? \_\_\_\_\_

point of view? \_\_\_\_\_

mood? \_\_\_\_\_

His schoolhouse was a low building of one large room, rudely constructed of logs; the windows partly glazed, and partly patched with leaves of old copybooks. It was most ingeniously secured at vacant hours, by a \*withe twisted in the handle of the door, and stakes set against the window shutters; so that though a thief might get in with perfect ease, he would find some embarrassment in getting out, --an idea most probably borrowed by the architect, Yost Van Houten, from the mystery of an eelpot. The schoolhouse stood in a rather lonely but pleasant situation, just at the foot of a woody hill, with a brook running close by, and a formidable birch-tree growing at one end of it. From hence the low murmur of his pupils' voices, conning over their lessons, might be heard in a drowsy summer's day, like the hum of a beehive; interrupted now and then by the authoritative voice of the master, in the tone of menace or command, or, peradventure, by the appalling sound of the birch, as he urged some tardy loiterer along the flowery path of knowledge.

from "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Washington Irving

order of details? \_\_\_\_\_

point of view? \_\_\_\_\_

mood? \_\_\_\_\_

The wagonette swung round into a side road, and we curved upward through deep lanes worn by centuries of wheels, high banks on either side, heavy with dripping moss and fleshy hart's-tongue ferns. Bronzing bracken and mottled bramble gleamed in the light of the sinking sun. Still steadily rising, we passed over a narrow granite bridge and skirted a noisy stream which gushed swiftly down, foaming and roaring amid the gray boulders. Both road and stream wound up through a valley dense with scrub oak and fir. At every turn Baskerville gave

an exclamation of delight, looking eagerly about him and asking countless questions. To his eyes all seemed beautiful, but to me a tinge of melancholy lay upon the countryside, which bore so clearly the mark of the waning year. Yellow leaves carpeted the lanes and fluttered down upon us as we passed. The rattle of our wheels died away as we drove through drifts of rotting vegetation -- sad gifts, as it seemed to me, for Nature to throw before the carriage of the returning heir of the Baskervilles.                      from The Hounds of the Baskervilles by Arthur Conan Doyle

order of details? \_\_\_\_\_

point of view? \_\_\_\_\_

mood? \_\_\_\_\_

**PROGYMNASMATA ASSIGNMENT DUE November 19, 2020**

Using a positive, hopeful mood, write a description of our school. Use Washington Irving's schoolhouse description as a model and be sure to choose an order for your details. If you are attending online, you may use your study area as your setting.

I used the \_\_\_\_\_ temporal approach **or** \_\_\_\_\_ order of impressions approach **or**

\_\_\_\_\_ a spatial approach

**GENERAL CRITERIA**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have let the reader know the point of view of my observations.

\_\_\_\_\_ **I have circled words that convey a positive, hopeful mood. Be careful to keep the slant consistent!**

\_\_\_\_\_ My paper is between 75 and 100 words in length \_\_\_\_\_ word count

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read it aloud to check for errors and for smoothness of style.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have used vivid diction to make the description paint a clear picture (underline examples of this).