



Setting the Scene

Where and when a story takes place is called the **setting**. As with characters, you can tell about a setting—or you can show what the setting is like. Compare these two pairs of sentences:

The sun was shining.

The glaring sun made my eyes burn.

The bus was crowded.

Paige shouldered her way down the aisle, searching for an empty seat on the crowded bus.

If you give your readers a clear picture of your story's setting, they'll feel as if they're standing beside your characters. Include words that describe the sights, sounds, smells, feel and even taste if appropriate.

Directions: Write at least two sentences for each setting, clearly describing it for your readers.

1. an empty kitchen early in the morning _____

2. a locker room after a basketball game _____

3. a dark living room during a scary TV movie _____

4. a classroom on the first day of school _____

5. a quiet place in the woods _____

