

High-Performance Writing—Advanced Descriptive Writing	Lessons									
Skills	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Understands and exhibits appropriate audience behavior	✓				✓					
Analyzes a descriptive passage	✓				✓				✓	
Drafts a descriptive passage		✓	✓			✓	✓			
Indents paragraphs		✓	✓			✓	✓			✓
Writes an opening sentence or paragraph that clearly introduces the topic		✓	✓			✓	✓			✓
Develops related sentences in middle paragraphs		✓	✓			✓	✓			✓
Writes a final sentence that brings a descriptive passage to a satisfying conclusion		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
Edits a descriptive passage		✓		✓		✓		✓		
Identifies and uses parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs)	✓	✓		✓						
Distinguishes general words from specific words	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understands and uses time order and spatial order	✓	✓	✓							
Identifies elements of spatial order	✓									
Identifies and uses words and phrases related to the five senses	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			
Draws inferences about a character’s feelings	✓				✓					
Identifies and uses figurative language (similes, metaphors, alliteration, onomatopoeia)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Uses a glossary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understands the structure and format of a descriptive passage		✓	✓		✓	✓				
Works cooperatively		✓				✓				
Participates in brainstorming activities		✓			✓	✓	✓			
Understands the purpose of transition sentences and uses them in writing		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Uses a graphic organizer	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
Uses proofreading marks		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
Edits a descriptive passage, adding figurative language		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
Edits a descriptive passage, adding specific nouns and adjectives		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
Edits a descriptive passage, adding specific verbs and adverbs		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
Uses a dictionary		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Identifies synonyms		✓			✓	✓				✓
Uses specific nouns and adjectives		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Uses specific verbs and adverbs		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Varies the first words of sentences		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Uses a thesaurus		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Changes general words to specific words				✓		✓		✓		✓
Uses an editing checklist				✓		✓		✓		
Participates in peer editing				✓				✓		
Understands that a description of a person includes details about physical appearance and personality					✓	✓	✓			
Identifies antonyms						✓				
Understands how to change word order to make sentences more interesting							✓	✓		✓
Analyzes a poem									✓	
Analyzes a personal response to a poem									✓	
Understands that a personal response is written in the first person									✓	✓
Understands that a personal response contains an opinion with supporting reasons										✓
Uses a graphic organizer to plan a personal response to a poem										✓
Drafts a personal response to a poem										✓
Encloses titles of poems in quotation marks										✓
Understands symbolism and responds to it in a poem									✓	✓
Understands rhyme and responds to it in a poem									✓	✓

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Skills	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Edits a personal response to a poem										✓
Identifies and writes homonyms									✓	✓
Understands etymology										✓
Proofreads a descriptive passage				✓				✓		✓
Publishes a descriptive passage				✓				✓		✓
Presents a descriptive passage				✓				✓		✓