

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD by Harper Lee – Grammar and Style

EXERCISE 11 STYLE: SENSORY IMAGERY

Identify the type of sensory imagery in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

a. sight b. sound c. touch d. taste e. smell

- ___ 1. He wore blue linen shorts that buttoned to his shirt, his hair was snow white and stuck to his head like duck-fluff; he was a year my senior but I towered over him.
- ___ 2. She looked and smelled like a peppermint drop.
- ___ 3. The silver saucer clattered when he replaced the pitcher, and he quickly put his hands in his lap.
- ___ 4. The cootie's host showed not the faintest interest in the furor he had wrought. He searched the scalp above his forehead, located his guest and pinched it between his thumb and forefinger.
- ___ 5. His neck was dark gray, the backs of his hands were rusty, and his fingernails were black deep into the quick.
- ___ 6. I licked it and waited for a while. When I did not die I crammed it into my mouth: Wrigley's Double-Mint.
- ___ 7. Often as not, Miss Maudie and I would sit silently on her porch, watching the sky go from yellow to pink as the sun went down, watching flights of martins sweep low over the neighborhood and disappear behind the schoolhouse rooftops.
- ___ 8. We strolled silently down the sidewalk, listening to porch swings creaking with the weight of the neighborhood, listening to the soft night-murmurs of the grown people on our street.
- ___ 9. The night-crawlers had retired, but ripe chinaberries drummed on the roof when the wind stirred, and the darkness was desolate with the barking of distant dogs.
- ___ 10. Soft taffeta-like sounds and muffled scurrying sounds filled me with helpless dread.
- ___ 11. I crawled into his lap and tucked my head under his chin. He put his arms around me gently.
- ___ 12. He was long-nosed, wore boots with shiny metal eye-holes, boot pants and a lumber jacket.

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- ___ 13. There was a hint of summer in the air – in the shadows it was cool, but the sun was warm, which meant good times coming: no school and Dill.
- ___ 14. I hated him for that, but when you are in trouble you become easily tired: soon I was hiding in his lap and his arms were around me.
- ___ 15. An oppressive odor met us when we crossed the threshold, an odor I had met many times in rain-rotted gray houses where there are coal-oil lamps, water dippers, and unbleached domestic sheets.
- ___ 16. Old age liver spots dotted her cheeks, and her pale eyes had black pinpoint pupils.
- ___ 17. He picked up the camellia, and when I went off to bed I saw him fingering the wide petals.
- ___ 18. The warm bittersweet smell of clean Negro welcomed us as we entered the churchyard – Hearts of Love hairdressing mingled with asafetida, snuff, Hoyt's Cologne, Brown's Mule, peppermint, and lilac talcum.
- ___ 19. She was bullet-headed with strange almond-shaped eyes, straight nose, and an Indian-bow mouth.
- ___ 20. The door was opened, and the gust of warm air revived us.
- ___ 21. I heard the suitcase hit the bedroom floor with a thump.
- ___ 22. I buried my head in it and listened to the small internal noises that went on behind the light blue cloth: his watch ticking, the faint crackle of his starched shirt, the soft sound of his breathing.
- ___ 23. Some people were gnawing on cold chicken and cold fried pork chops.
- ___ 24. She had a fresh permanent wave, and her hair was a mass of tight gray ringlets.
- ___ 25. Her voice soared over the clink of coffee cups and the soft bovine sounds of the ladies munching their dainties.