

Student Handout — [Language Arts 1.1: Genres of language](#)

Name: _____ Date: _____

You must be logged in to Off2Class to complete these tasks. Open the slide(s) listed, then complete the questions below.

Task 1 — Vocabulary/Reading: Descriptive vocabulary — choose the correct word (Slides 5, 6)

Open slides 5 and 6. Use the words in the word bank to complete each sentence.

Word Bank: *overtired, irritable, pounding, electric, atmosphere, nerves*

1. The room had an _____ — everyone felt excited and tense before the ceremony.
2. Before my presentation I had bad _____, so I couldn't stop fidgeting.
3. After a long flight and very little sleep she felt _____ and cranky.
4. He became _____ when the meeting ran late and he was hungry.
5. My heart was _____ so loudly I could feel it in my throat.
6. The crowd's reaction made the concert hall feel almost _____ with energy.

Task 2 — Reading: Classify each short text: which genre is it? (Slides 3, 4, 9, 11, 13, 14)

Open the example slides listed. For each short text below, choose the best genre: *Descriptive, Narrative, Persuasive, or Expository*.

1. "The library's shelves rose like waves, the smell of old paper wrapping the room."	1. _____
2. "I'm convinced that introducing later school start times will improve students' sleep — here are three studies that support that."	2. _____
3. "They shouted, packed the bags, and left at dawn. Nothing could stop them now."	3. _____
4. "Solar panels turn sunlight into electricity. This process is called the photovoltaic effect."	4. _____
5. "Have you noticed how social media makes us skimp on real conversation? We should all try to put our phones away more often."	5. _____
6. "He smelled cinnamon and citrus as he stepped into the bakery; sunlight warmed the wooden counter."	6. _____

Task 3 — Writing: Write descriptive sentences for two images (Slides 14, 5)

Open slide 14 (Bodleian Library) and slide 5. For each image, write three descriptive sentences. Use sensory detail and include at least one simile (e.g., 'like...').

Slide 5: _____

Task 4 – Reading/Writing: Match examples to genre or purpose (Slides 4, 17)

Open slides 4 and 17. Match each example on the left with the best genre or purpose on the right. Write the matching right-hand phrase next to each left item.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. A novel set in a fantasy world | A. Persuasive |
| ___ 2. A science report that explains an experiment | B. Expository |
| ___ 3. A travel brochure describing a beach | C. Descriptive |
| ___ 4. An opinion column arguing for later school start times | D. Narrative |
| ___ 5. A paragraph focusing on how a room smells and looks | E. Present facts / explain a topic |
| ___ 6. A news article giving statistics about book sales | F. Create vivid sensory images |

Answer Key – Genres of language

Task 1

1. atmosphere
2. nerves
3. overtired
4. irritable
5. pounding
6. electric

Task 2

1. Descriptive
2. Persuasive
3. Narrative
4. Expository
5. Persuasive
6. Descriptive

Task 3

Guidance: Look for sensory words, at least one simile per image, clear imagery and sentence variety.

Slide 14 (library) sample sentences:

- 1) 'The leather-bound books lined the shelves like soldiers in neat rows.'
- 2) 'A musty scent of old paper and ink hung in the air, warm and comforting.'
- 3) 'Footsteps echoed softly, the sound folding into the quiet like a whisper.'

Slide 5 (waiting person) sample sentences:

- 1) 'Her hands trembled; the room felt cold against her skin as if the air were thin.'
- 2) 'Time stretched slowly – the clock ticks were as loud as drumbeats.'
- 3) 'Her nervous energy buzzed in the room, like a small storm inside her chest.'

Task 4

1. Narrative
2. Expository
3. Descriptive
4. Persuasive
5. To create vivid sensory images
6. To present facts and explain a topic