

Setting



Take a look at this scene from our pals, the Simpsons. There is action, there are characters, and there is a setting. The place where the characters perform the action is the setting. Even a simple cartoon illustration shows a fairly high level of detail.

Movies and pictures allow the viewer to actually see the setting. Writing and stories allow the reader to imagine the setting in the “mind’s eye” (the image that our minds create of a character, setting, event). One of the most wonderful aspects of reading, as opposed to watching a movie, is that when reading we each form our own unique idea about what the setting and characters look like. Creating an effective setting in a piece of writing is an art in itself!

When describing a setting:

- Use lots of details
- Use imagery or similes
- Consider all the senses; sight, touch, taste, smell, and sound
- Write with feeling and create an image through your writing
- Be creative in your descriptions

Describe the setting of the Simpsons picture or any setting you have experienced or seen.