



May 13, 2020

Topic: Writing About Place and Culture

Subtopic: Food Writing

1. The taste of food is just one of the many stories we can tell about not by the tongue but by the literary mind.
2. Science has shown that the tongue sends a taste signal that the brain interprets as flavor. Thus, it is the mind's interpretation when we say the food is delicious.
3. Narratives about food consist of the *tasteful*, the food itself, and the *tasteless*, the culture, the botanical aspects, nutritional properties, and preparation.
4. The food writer serves the readers with these elements of food in a form of delectable stories.
5. Food writing may come in a form of personal essay, recipe of cooks, chefs, and farmers, of travel, restaurant, and cook book reviews.

THE SENSORY VOCABULARY OF FOOD

1. For external appearance (can also be used to describe the texture)
firm, flaky, fluffy, crumbly, crisp, hard, lumpy, mushy, sticky, bright, red
2. For texture
brittle, rubbery, short, soft, close, bubbly, open, tender, waxy, velvety
3. For odor
bland, acidic, strong, citrus, mild, spicy, weak, savory, aromatic, floral, fragrant, rotten, pungent
4. For taste
meaty, fruity, cool, hot, tasty, warm sharp, salty
5. For sound
cracking, popping, sizzling, slurping, crunching, grinding, bubbling

Directions: Write about your last meal. Recall the taste, texture, appearance, or the sound of the meal. Turn the entire experience into a story, that is a series of events. Begin your story based on the sensory vocabulary of food.

SENSORY DETAILS OF MY LAST MEAL

Appearance

Texture

Odor

Taste

Sound (inside or outside your mouth)

Reference: Creative Nonfiction by Israel page 183



May 12, 2020

Topic: Writing About Places and Culture

Subtopic: Nature Story

1. Living and non-living objects found on the surface of the earth without human involvement make up the natural environment. We harness these objects for purposes that are vital to our livelihood and lifestyle.
2. We get involve with the environment by taking care or abusing it. Its beauty amazes us but we are also horrified by the catastrophe it can bring.
3. Poems, stories, movies, songs, or paintings have made nature their object and subject.

Seven Principles of Writing About Nature

1. Stories don't have to be about humans
Tell stories about plants and animals and their history and used their point of view to animate story.
2. Follow systems
An ecological system is like a mind with its attention darting from one idea to the next. Follow it and it will take you to different places.
3. Follow your subject all the way to ask readers to care about it
Avoid short-cuts. Don't just state facts. Explain why this would really matter to the readers.
4. Use the first-person strategically
Don't write in the "I" to confess who you are. Choose only that part of who you are that is crucial to the story.
5. Write as an amateur
Beginning your piece by understanding how little you know about your subject can bring you close to where your readers are.
6. Write with humor
Humorous situations are often the outcome of ignorance.
7. Build suspense
Opening your piece with a question can already put your readers in suspense. The question you pose will determine if readers will keep reading or drop you.

Directions: Analyze the opposite ways of Japanese and Koreans in reaching out the vastness of nature. Choose one idea and use it as your subject for writing. Observe the principles presented.

JAPANESE	KOREANS
a Zen garden	see a towering mountain
a bonsai tree	experience a rippling river
an ikebana flower arrangement	do actual journey
a poem about nature	