

## Grammar and Style

### ADD DESCRIPTIVE DETAILS

Tennyson used imagery to create a strong effects. In this description of Lancelot, sensory details create a powerful portrait:

The gemmy bridle glittered free,  
 Like to some branch of stars we see  
 Hung in the golden Galaxy.  
 The bridle bells rang merrily  
 5 As he rode down to Camelot.  
 And from his blazoned baldric slung  
 A mighty silver bugle hung,  
 And as he rode his armor rung,  
 Beside remote Shalott. (lines 82–90)

Images in these lines appeal to the reader's sense of sight, sound, and touch. Notice that Tennyson uses strong **verbs** (*glittered, rang, slung*) and **modifiers** (*gemmy, golden, blazoned, mighty*) to create powerful images. These details help reader's envision Lancelot and understand why his appearance affected the Lady of Shalott so deeply.

**Directions:** Write a description of a natural scene, modeled on the following excerpt (you don't have to duplicate the rhyme scheme). Be sure to incorporate several verbs and modifiers that appeal to the senses.

Willows whiten, aspens quiver,  
 Little breezes dusk and shiver  
 Through the wave that runs forever  
 By the island in the river  
 5 Flowing down to Camelot. (lines 10–14)

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