

English 1123

Olevelsnotes.weebly.com

Hammad Hassan

EXPRESSIONS FOR NARRATIVE ESSAYS

Expressions for Narrative Essays | Hammad Hassan

Useful words/phrases/expressions in composition writing

Use words that appeal to the senses

a. The leaves rustled in the trees and the trees swayed slightly, making groaning heavy sounds. The twigs crackled, snapped and sputtered.

b. The bells pealed through the clatter and the children shuffled back to class.

Use dialogues

a. "Nag, nag, nag! That's what I hear all day!" he grumbled.

b. "What do you expect?" cried his wife angrily. "Four mouths to feed, and another on the way, and all you do is idle about all day with your friends!"

c. "Guess what!" I cried triumphantly, holding up the letter. "I've won it!"

"Won what?" asked my mother.

"The scholarship!" I shrieked in my excitement.

d. "Who do you think you are?" he sneered, looking me up and down.

e. "My daughter, my beautiful daughter," I murmured bitterly, my lips quavering, as tears welled up in my eyes.

Write interesting descriptions of people

Appearance – draw attention to certain vivid features

i. When he laughed, he revealed a set of horribly discoloured teeth.

ii. Everybody stared at her. She had beautiful dark hair piled high on her head, a delicately shaped face, large soft eyes and the most dazzling smile I had ever seen.

Personality or character

i. For years she had lived with her aunt, a bad-tempered, acid-tongued woman who made her life miserable.

Write vivid descriptions of feelings

a. He sat by the hospital bed, holding her hand. It was clear that the end was near. Tears welled up in his eyes and silently coursed down his cheeks.

"Please forgive me," he said, choking with grief.

Expressions for Narrative Essays | Hammad Hassan

b. She ran breathlessly to him with the good news. As soon as he heard it, he leapt into the air with a whoop of joy.

“Wonderful! Marvelous! Unbelievable!” he kept shouting.

Then he turned to her and swept her up in his arms.

Lively style

Begin each sentence differently from the previous one.

1) I opened the door and walked straight into the room. There was Pei Yan sitting by the chair, waiting for me. Quickly rising from her chair, she came towards me.

Use rhetoric question (questions that do not require an answer)

1) She thought of the unlucky happenings that had just befallen her – her failure in the examinations, her mother’s illness, and her father losing his job. How could anyone be so unfortunate?

Use words that are highly descriptive, vivid and forceful

1) The place was eerily quiet. All around us was a deathly silence. Suddenly it was broken by a mournful cry. It did not even sound human. We looked at each other, terror-stricken, and then made a dash for the door.

Use effective adjectives

1) The forbidden words: good, bad, happy, sad, nice

ii. Nice book: thrilling book

iii. Good speech: witty speech

iv. Selfish: egoistic/self-centred

Substitute over-used adverbs

1) Very: extremely, astonishingly, shockingly.

Good expressions for describing sadness

1) Tears trickled down my face.

2) His face was grave, abstracted, almost could have fancied sad.

3) My heart was in my mouth, and the dread I felt was palpable.

Expressions for Narrative Essays | Hammad Hassan

- 4) He was disconsolate and without hope because of the loss of his mother.
- 5) "Will you miss me?" I asked with a tinge of sadness.
- 6) He sauntered into the class gloomily.
- 7) Her eyes were puffy with a trace of wetness around the lids.
- 8) Jane blinked back tears that threatened to overcome her.
- 9) The great pain and sorrow totally shattered her.
- 10) The sorrow seemed to diminish everyone physically.
- 11) She committed suicide during a fit of depression.
- 12) The news cast a gloom over the entire family.
- 13) He was overcome by melancholy when his mate died. He has been moping about the around the house ever since.
- 14) He was in low spirits because he was accused of cheating.
- 15) She composed herself and wiped the tears away.
- 16) Her throat was too raw with pain for her to speak.
- 17) He waited forlornly outside the house, despite the pouring rain.
- 18) Nothing we did could lift him out of his state of deep gloom.
- 19) When he left, she sank into melancholy.
- 20) "He's left me," she revealed in a small, stricken voice.
- 21) He was extremely distressed by the bad news.
- 22) My heart sank. A sudden loss came over me.
- 23) Her lips moved desolately in prayer, imploring the gods to have mercy on her.
- 24) He sat there in mute misery, his face in his hands.
- 25) When he left, she sank into melancholy
- 26) She buried her face in her hands and sobbed quietly, unable to hold in the great tide of emotions.
- 27) Her emotions hit her like a bullet through her chest.

Expressions for Narrative Essays | Hammad Hassan

- 28) I was homesick and dismayed by the dismal weather in London.
- 29) Her eyes turned watery and red as the hurtful moments were brought back to mind again.
- 30) Tears streamed down her face as she walked out of the coffee club with her hand still clutching on to the pendant.
- 31) Sue broke into tears.
- 32) A dark mood came over Jane.
- 33) She was on the verge of tears.
- 34) Tears rolled down her rosy cheeks.
- 35) No words could express his agony.
- 36) Tears welled up in Nancy's eyes.
- 37) The poor child sobbed sorrowfully.
- 38) With a heavy heart, he left the hospital.
- 39) My heart sank when I heard the sad news.
- 40) Her eyes were puffy and red after all the crying.
- 41) She cried her heart out on hearing the tragic news.
- 42) The frightened child was on the brink of tears.
- 43) They were sobbing their hearts out when they heard of their father's sudden death.
- 44) Mrs Lee was so overcome with grief that she fainted a few times at her husband's funeral
- 45) My heart sank when my teacher told me that I had failed the examination.
- 46) The little girl burst into tears when she could not find her mother.
- 47) The little girl was close to tears when her mother left her in the care of the new maid.
- 48) She was so upset that she could not stop her tears from streaming down her cheeks.
- 49) A tingle of sorrow swept over me.