

Theme 3:

Description of a dilapidated house

The door **begrudgingly** creaked open. A **musty, dank odour** crept into my nose. The house was dead silent except for some **intermittent creaks and moans**. Black and brown mould **dotted the ceiling in clusters, evident of rain seeping through the roof**.



The door is personified as a reluctant person with the use of the expression 'begrudgingly', which also suggests the decrepit condition of the door. The writer makes a notable effort in engaging the various senses of the reader. 'Musty, dank odour' appeals to the reader's olfactory sense; 'intermittent creaks and moans' appeals to the reader's auditory sense; 'dotted the ceiling in clusters' appeals to the reader's visual sense.

Less appealing expressions

1. The door made a creaking sound as it was opened.
2. There was an odour in the air and mould was found on the ceiling.

Vocabulary

begrudgingly	reluctantly; unwillingly
musty	having an odour or flavour suggestive of mould
dank	unpleasantly moist or humid
intermittent	stopping or ceasing for a time; alternately ceasing and beginning again
evident	plain or clear to the sight or understanding

Theme 20:

Description of a scene at the market

The neighbourhood wet market was a **constant source of bustling vibrancy** in the early mornings. **Boisterous shouts** of stallholders hawking their products **mingled with the voices of eager buyers** as they attempted to get the best bargains. Arrays of fresh fish, poultry and meat **glistened under the bright fluorescent light**.



The phrase 'constant source of bustling vibrancy' highlights the perpetual hustle and bustle commonly seen in such a setting. 'Boisterous shouts' and 'mingled with the voices of eager buyers' appeal largely to the reader's auditory sense, while 'glistened under the bright fluorescent light' appeals to the reader's visual sense.

Less appealing expressions

1. The market was very noisy and crowded in the mornings.
2. The stallholders were busy selling their food items and groceries to the customers who bargained with them.

Vocabulary

bustling	thriving; energetic
boisterous	noisy and unrestrained
mingled	mixed; blended
glistened	gleamed by reflecting light

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Describing People

Theme **1**:

Description of an overbearing classmate

David stood at the front of the classroom, with his arms crossed and his **eyebrows creased into an enormous frown**. He **fired off commands** to the rest of the class, and we all hurried to follow his instructions. I wished fervently that we had never chosen someone **as dictatorial as him** to be our class chairperson.



David's attempt to instil fear in his classmates is shown by the dramatic facial expression of his 'eyebrows creased into an enormous frown'. His arrogance is obvious from the description of his action 'fired off commands'. David becomes the subject of the simile 'as dictatorial as him'.

Less appealing expressions

1. David frowned and crossed his arms.
2. He gave orders to the rest of the class.

Vocabulary

creased
dictatorial

made wrinkled or furrowed
inclined to dictate or command; overbearing