

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Stranger at the Gate

**Skill Focus:** Writing a full paragraph that vividly describes a character based on a prompt.

### The Prompt: “The Stranger at the Gate”

It was just after sunset when a figure appeared at the edge of town. No one knew who they were or why they had come, but something about them made everyone pause. As the stranger approached the iron gate, the only sound was the soft thump of boots against gravel. The town's children stopped playing. The shopkeeper froze mid-sentence. Even the mayor stepped out of her office to watch.

You were there. You saw the stranger up close.

**Your Task:** Write a **descriptive paragraph (6–8 sentences)** describing the **stranger** in as much detail as possible. Include at least:

- What they looked like (appearance, clothing, unique features)
- How they moved or carried themselves
- What kind of **mood or feeling** they gave off
- Any guesses you had about who they might be or what they wanted



Use **strong adjectives**, **figurative language** (similes/metaphors), and **sensory details** (sight, sound, smell, etc.) to bring the stranger to life.

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