

Sense Deepener Answer Key

Teacher sample of an enhanced sensory version:

The mountain trail lay in soft morning shadows as Leo began his hike, the peaks above glowing pale blue. The cool air brushed against his cheeks while distant birds called through the stillness. A crisp pine scent drifted from the trees lining the trail, mixing with the faint earthy smell of damp soil. He could hear the steady trickle of a stream weaving over stones somewhere ahead, and the rising sun warmed his back with each slow step. The freshness of the air left a clean taste on his tongue as he continued upward.

(Any student response that adds clear, concrete sensory details across multiple senses is acceptable.)

Teacher's Guide

- Review the five senses and give students examples of **specific** sensory details rather than broad ones.
- Encourage students to choose details that support mood, not just random sensory additions.
- Provide a sensory word bank for support: crisp, whispering, tangy, gritty, sweet, sharp, cool, hazy, echoing, fragrant.
- For students who struggle, let them highlight which senses are present or missing in the original passage before revising.
- Students in grades 6 to 8 may focus on three senses first; students in grades 9 to 12 should work to blend all five smoothly.
- Allow peer review to check whether the revisions truly enhance imagery.
- Extension idea: Have students write their own short sensory lacking passage and swap with a partner to enhance.