

Focused Sense Writing Answer Key

Answers will vary. Sample responses include:

1. **Sound Focus:** Soft brooms brushed across storefront steps while a distant train clattered over the tracks and a few quiet voices drifted from an opening diner door.
2. **Sight Focus:** Bright jackets shifted in tightly packed rows as buses flashed their route numbers and traffic lights blinked through the crowd.
3. **Smell Focus:** Sweet vanilla mixed with warm cinnamon and a hint of buttery dough rising from the ovens.
4. **Touch Focus:** Cold air gripped my cheeks, tugged at my fingertips, and settled like a thin sheet of ice over my arms.
5. **Taste Focus:** A sharp citrus burst hit my tongue, followed by a smooth sweetness that lingered at the edges of my mouth.

Teacher's Guide

- Review the purpose of **targeted sensory writing**, emphasizing precision and discipline. Explain that limiting senses strengthens observation skills.
- Encourage students to brainstorm a list of sense-specific words before writing. This prevents drifting into other senses unintentionally.
- For differentiation, provide short mentor examples, create a word bank for each sense, or allow students to practice with shorter one-sentence responses before full descriptions.
- For engagement, turn the activity into a challenge where students guess which sense a classmate's description used.
- For extension, have students revise one prompt by adding all five senses or combine two sense-focused descriptions into a longer scene.