

Setting #1: The Amusement Park

by Jason L., seventh grade writer

It was dark and damp. The sound of rain splashed everywhere on the ground and metal. The rusty metal parts scraped each other, and loud screeching sounds came from them. There is no sign of life at all, not excitement or feeling. The rain seems to get harder. The splattering sounds are like bullets shooting through metal. An amusement park at night is like a ghost town without any ghosts. The shops and stands are all empty. No animal will ever set foot in this industrial graveyard. One glance will make you never wanting to go to an amusement park again.



But then...the sun slowly rises up, and the storm clouds slowly begin to vanish, as if they were never there. Workers finally show up to get everything ready. Everyone's working hard to prepare the things needed for customers. Stands and shops get cleaned and stock up. With all the arrangements, all they can do is wait. Wait for people to come. Not long. They hear loud honking noises. Cars slowly come to reach the sight. When they get near, you see happy faces and smiles on all the children's faces, as they anxiously wait to get inside. Kids that enter rush off, and loud screams of joy are everywhere. Roller coasters are launched off in all places. It's a great sight to be seen.

Setting #2: An Animal Shelter

by Maryn R., seventh grade writer

A lonely animal shelter sits. Not one family has entered in weeks. Abandoned and abused animals wait for good homes. Cute little puppies that have been hurt or neglected don't know whether they can trust people again. Barking, meowing, and chirping: sounds of animals who want to come out of their cages and play. Dulls walls but comforting voices of veterinarians and nurses who want to help these animals. A newborn kitten is calling for her family. Meow



Meow

Meow.

One day a girl comes in with her mom and dad. She is six years old. They are looking for a little friend for her. She hears a meow and out of the corner of her eye, she spots a newborn kitten. She turns around swiftly and walks over to its cage. Suddenly, she falls in love with this kitten. She has light brown fur with light orange stripes, and her fur is so soft, it's like a pillow! Her eyes are soft baby blue, like the sky on a bright, sunny day. She is so cheerful and small, she can fit in the palm of your hand. Nalah is this kitten's new name, and now she has an owner. Nalah will never be treated badly, and the little girl will always have a friend!

Setting #3: A Forest
by Sarah D., seventh grade writer



I walk from bright sunlight to a lonely place. You wandered too far away. It is very quiet, not a sound in the air. There are no people, toys, or food. There are no clothes to warm you from the cool breeze. There is but a bed of grass for you to sleep upon. You want to scream with sadness, but you know that chances are no one will hear you. When you are alone in the woods, you feel so alone. In this time of darkness, you know you are alone. No one can see or hear you cry.

Suddenly. You hear voices. The wind blows, and the tree branches seem to part, letting sun light the way to the voices. You see your family. You are not alone in these dark woods. At last you are with your parents. You laugh with relief. Birds chirp, and you are on your way home.

What's Voice?

- ☐ Humor
- ☐ Emotion
- ☐ Passion
- ☐ Mood & Tone
- ☐ Persuasion
- ☐ Point-of-view
- ☐ Devices that add style

With a friend:

Look closely at the voice techniques used by these three writers. Use the Venn Diagram to show where the authors were similar and different in the ways they brought voice to their setting descriptions.

