



selection from *A Sound of Thunder*

By Ray Bradbury

This selection is a description of a Tyrannosaurus Rex, which the narrator has traveled back in time to hunt. Ask students: How is the author trying to make us feel about this t-rex? What details are the most memorable?

It came on great oiled, resilient, striding legs. It towered thirty feet above half of the trees, a great evil god, folding its delicate watchmaker's claws close to its oily reptilian chest. Each lower leg was a piston, a thousand pounds of white bone, sunk in thick ropes of muscle, sheathed over in a gleam of pebbled skin like the mail of a terrible warrior. Each thigh was a ton of meat, ivory, and steel mesh. And from the great breathing cage of the upper body those two delicate arms dangled out front, arms with hands which might pick up and examine men like toys, while the snake neck coiled. And the head itself, a ton of sculptured stone, lifted easily upon the sky. Its mouth gaped, exposing a fence of teeth like daggers. Its eyes rolled, ostrich eggs, empty of all expression save hunger. It closed its mouth in a death grin. It ran, its pelvic bones crushing aside trees and bushes, its taloned feet clawing damp earth, leaving prints six inches deep wherever it settled its weight.



student
example

My Street by Andrea Walker, grade 6

I suggest using this descriptive piece to emphasize the effectiveness of using all five senses in writing.

Sticky like syrup is how the street is.
 Junky is what the grass that once was green
 But now is brown is.
 My house has bricks like Hubert Middle School.
 Smells like drunk people's breath.
 Sounds like crying babies
 and old men talking about everybody
 in my neighborhood.