



**GCSE Descriptive and Narrative writing – using the model and success criteria on the reverse of this sheet write an opening paragraph for a **DESCRIPTION** of each picture.**



## Success Criteria



## Model

The opening paragraph should concentrate on specific details and be ambiguous. If the reader can tell what it is, it is not as interesting to read on.

Have you explored all the relevant senses?

Have you used a variety of descriptive adjectives?

Have you used appropriate similes, metaphors and personification?

Have you used alliteration and onomatopoeia to make your description come alive?

DO NOT include characters or dialogue. (you can include people but only if describing them from distance, physically and thoughts wise.

The snowflakes had settled, and their icy grip held the landscape in its deathly cold embrace. It lay untouched, clean and crisp; no footprints bothered it. In the middle of this crunchy blanket stood one building alone in the noiseless snow. The snow had rested on the roof forming a beautiful white cap, hiding its true colours and details. The musty ancient smell masked by its new protective hat.

## Narrative – using the stimulus pictures to create an interesting and engaging narrative.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Success Criteria</u></b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Model</u></b></p>
<p>The opening paragraph should concentrate on specific details and be ambiguous. If the reader can tell what it is, it is not as interesting to read on.</p>	<p>Sebastian kept running, he had no choice. As the gloom descended the treacherous forest became deadlier and more unnerving; but the howls grew louder and he was sure closer. The third time he stumbled he had the wind taken clean from him and let out a mournful whimper as he fell to the floor. The pine needles felt like silk sheets as he let himself sink into the thick, green carpet. The sweet, rich scent filled his nostrils and he nearly gave himself over to the forest floor, let them take me he thought I'm too tired to run anymore.</p> <p>That's when he saw the light, distant but like an oasis in the desert it called out offering safety and salvation...</p> <p><i>What is the focus of the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph?</i></p> <p><i>What adverbs and adjectives have I used?</i></p> <p><i>What verbs have I used?</i></p> <p><i>Have I started In media res?</i></p> <p><i>What structure have I started to use?</i></p>
<p>Does each paragraph have a specific focus?</p>	
<p>Have you used a range of adverbs and adjectives to make it interesting?</p>	
<p>Are your verbs inventive and have you used a range?</p>	
<p>Have you used 1 line of dialogue? Any more is bad.</p>	
<p>Have you started in the middle of the action (in media res) to create a sense of intrigue and confusion?</p>	
<p>Have you tried to surprise the reader by subverting (changing) genre or style?</p>	
<p>Is there an obvious structure to your narrative? Cyclical, zooming in, zooming out, point of view, flashback, flash forward</p>	