

Name: _____

DESCRIPTIVE WRITING

ANALYZING THE AUTHOR'S CRAFT

Alane Adams uses powerful descriptive writing to help readers visualize the dangerous creatures. Let's take a closer look at her techniques.

Example 1: The Sneevil (Page 36)

"Its ugly pig eyes glared out of slits over curved tusks that jutted from its lower jaw. Bristly hair covered mottled gray skin."

Specific details: eyes, tusks, jaw, hair, skin (not just "it was ugly")

Strong adjectives: ugly, curved, bristly, mottled

Action verbs: glared, jutted, covered

Comparison: pig eyes (comparing to something readers know)



Example 2: The Viken (Page 39)

"It was taller than them, a massive wolf-like creature with hulking shoulders and a shaggy mane. Pointed ears stood at attention. Black eyes held a yellow slit in their center and slanted upward. Its paws were the size of dinner plates, tipped with lethal-looking claws that curled into the soil."

Find the author's techniques in this passage. Complete the chart:

Technique	Examples From Excerpt
Specific Details	
Strong Adjectives	
Action Verbs	
Comparison	