

Setting Description

What does a good one look like?

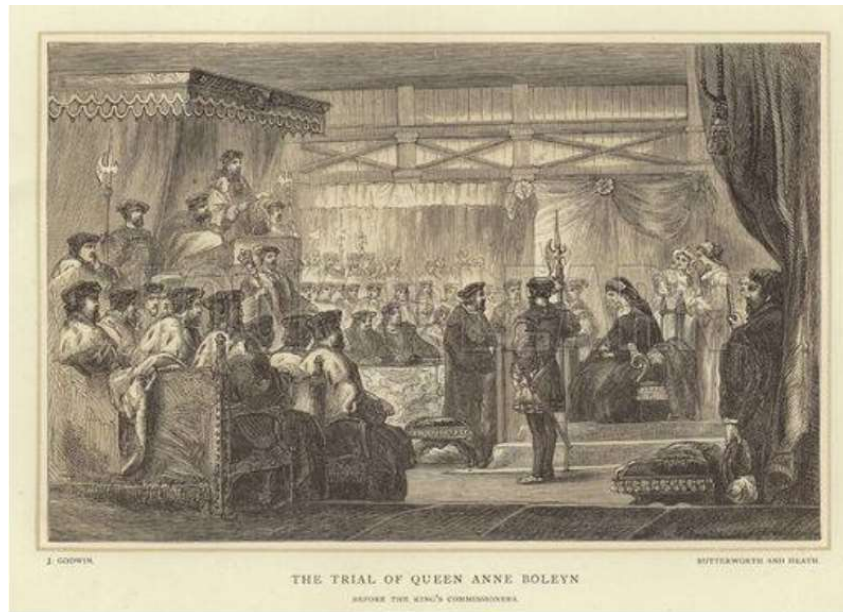
We heard **London** on the wind. We heard the mad ding-dong of hundreds of **church bells**, and the thunder of **carriage wheels**, and the sound of distant **shouting**. We climbed a hill and looked down, and the **din** of the city rose up to us: **hammering, bleating, chiming, babbling**. I looked down at the **spires** and **turrets** and the cram of **buildings** with black smoke hanging over the roofs, the twisting **river** bustling with boats and the swarm of **people** like maggots on a carcass, and my **stomach churned with misery**. Soon we came to **hovels** and **sheds** where people were selling all kinds of things; **wooden spoons** and **strings of onions**, dried herbs and cooking pots, grubby bits of clothing. Ragged **children** ran up to us, tugging at the reins of the horses and the hems of our clothes. Dirty **hands** stretched up, pleading for money, for food, for anything. Now I could smell **London** too. It was the smell of **sweat** and **dirt** and **rot**. We rode on into the dark, cramped alleys of leaning houses. **Smoke and cooking fumes** billowed round us, choking us with a stink of **hot grease** and **damp wood**. **I felt stifled, as if the air had been snatched away from me.**

Berlie Doherty, 'Treason'

TOP TIPS:

- Pick out **the things the character heard**
- Pick out **the things the character saw**
- Pick out **the things the character smelt**
- Add extra detail (expanded noun phrases, similes, precise vocabulary) to make each thing seem really BAD or really GOOD.
- Show the reader **how the character felt**.

Use the techniques to create your own setting description



What Anne heard	Use extra detail to describe that thing (expanded noun phrase, simile, precise vocabulary)

What Anne saw	Use extra detail to describe that thing (expanded noun phrase, simile, precise vocabulary)

What Anne smelt	Use extra detail to describe that thing (expanded noun phrase, simile, precise vocabulary)

How did Anne feel?	How can I SHOW not TELL the reader?

Now write your own setting description of the court house.

You should write at least five sentences.