Descriptive Essay

- describing a “noun” in order to make a point, uses imagery and figurative devices

A. Imagery – appeal to the readers’ senses

1. visual: sight

2. auditory: hearing

3. tactile or kinesthetic: touch (movement)

4. gustatory: taste

5. olfactory: smell

B. Compression devices – create imagery by making a comparison between two unlike things. Aim to incorporate a single **motif,** however, as mixing metaphors tends to distract a reader.

Motif: (or leitmotif) is a musical term that refers to the reappearance of an idea, person, or subject throughout a piece of music (or literature). Motifs are often built around central comparison that is introduced early on and then mentioned throughout the piece.

1. Metaphor – direct comparison of two unlike things; sophisticated metaphors compare one object to another by giving one object the qualifies or actions of the other object:

ex. The moon is a ship – not as good as: The moon sailed across the dark sea of the sky.

2. Simile – indirect comparison of two unlike things; follow by a brief explanation:

ex. The moon was like a ship, sailing slowly across the ocean of the sky.

3. Personification – a type of metaphor where an inanimate object is given human qualities (comparing the object to a human)…. Reification – turning a “human” into an object.

ex. The moon pranced on the crest of the waves, sailing from one cloud to another.

**Motif**: taken together, these examples create an extended metaphor as they are all about the moon…

#8: Please identify the use of imagery and compression devices in the essay, as Neruda uses them to help convey his thesis… the overall impression he is suggesting about returning home. (Use different colours to identify each…. or different symbols).