



Slowly, his glistening eyes flicked from side to side scanning the jungle. As he surveyed, his slender body coiled and uncoiled repeatedly. His skin rippled with glossy, polished scales that blended perfectly into the emerald green leaves scattered across the ground. His tongue flicked cautiously. When he hissed, his teeth bared and his prey fled. They were right to run – the pronged and venomous design was perfect to destroy anything he met. In amongst the leaves, his tail could be seen to twitch irritably. He was restless. He was hungry. It was time to hunt.

1. Pick 6 nouns which are parts of the character
2. Brainstorm adjectives to describe each part
3. Use a thesaurus (online or a book) to uplevel any adjectives chosen
 - Top tip: To uplevel colours, look for gemstones or other objects with those colours
4. Use the word bank to create a sentence describing each body part – add details about how, where or why it acts as it does to tell you more about its personality
5. Try to make each sentence different in structure, make additions or changes as you write

1.	2.	3.
eyes	yellow, flickering, bright, slitted	citrine, radiant, glistening, luminous
body	long, thin, graceful, nimble	slender, skeletal, lengthy, lithe
scales	green, smooth, tiny, delicate	emerald, silky, glossy, polished
tongue	forked, long, agile, shy	branched, elongated, limber, cautious
teeth	pointy, venomous, hollow, sharp	barbed, pointed, jagged, pronged
tail	twitchy, flickering, tapered, pointed	skittish, restless, irritable, anxious

How he moved tells his intention – to hunt

Links to the previous sentence – creates coherence

Short sentence breaks up text

Parenthesis to add detail

Repetition to draw in the reader

Slowly, his glistening eyes flicked from side to side **scanning the jungle**.

As he surveyed, his slender body coiled and uncoiled repeatedly.

His skin rippled with glossy, polished scales **that blended perfectly into the emerald green leaves scattered across the ground**.

His tongue flicked cautiously.

When he hissed, his teeth bared and his prey fled.

They were right to run - **the pronged and venomous design was perfect to destroy anything he met**.

In amongst the leaves, his tail could be seen to twitch irritably.

He was restless. **He was** hungry.

It was time to hunt.

States the location – sets the scene

Relative clause – adds detail (no comma needed because the clause uses *that* rather than *which*, *who* or *where*)

Starting with a conjunction – different sentence structure

Fronted adverbial – changing sentence structure beginning the sentence with a word or phrase about how, where or why

Moves on the plot

This is not the only structure for a description; it's just a model to show how a description *could* be built. It could also include similes and metaphors or other figurative or descriptive language. The important thing is to use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures to engage the reader.