



Descriptive Writing

The Shell Game

You have been given a shell that hopefully no one else can see. You are going to write a one-page composition really describing your shell which should include the following elements:

- **Sensory Appeal**—include all five senses
- **Comparisons to its shape, texture, color, size**
- **Personification**—If Disney were to animate your shell, what kind of personality would it have? A merry, joyful, energetic shell OR an angry and bitter middle manager shell?

NOW here's the catch—Here are WORDS you may NOT use:

Words for colors—pink, tan, brown.

- **INSTEAD** use comparisons or similes:
"This shell is the color of frappuccino mocha with too much cream."

Numbers—This shell has 12 spots.

- **INSTEAD** try "This shell looks like it has a cheetah on its back."

Words for Shapes—triangle, cone, oval

- **INSTEAD** try "This shell is the shape of a yield sign that shimmers in the afternoon sun."

Actual Measurements—This shell is 2.5 inches long.

- **INSTEAD** try This shell is as long a tiny golf pencil that would seem huge to an ant."