

Wow! Is Autumn Here Already?

This well-organized piece has lots of vivid sensory detail. It is awkward in places, but, all in all, the author does a good job of painting a picture of the smells, feelings, and sights of autumn.

What worked?

- a solid organizational strategy
- plenty of sensory detail
- good variety of main idea sentences, one stated as a question
- the author's enthusiasm for her topic is evident

Suggestions:

- **word choice** – the author repeats many key words (smell, taste, etc.) The author can become aware of this by scanning the piece for repeated words and vary some of them. - *Section 2 Informational & Opinion Writing Guide*
- the author begins and ends the paragraphs in the body of the piece with a variation on the same sentence, perhaps to reiterate the main idea. However, the piece is just as strong without that redundancy. - *Section 2 Informational & Opinion Writing Guide*
- the piece would benefit by a **stronger lead** - *Section 5 Informational & Opinion Writing Guide*
- the conclusion paragraph is overly general and seems to focus on taste, even though that is not one of the main ideas. Instead of the repeated sentiment of loving autumn, that autumn is great, etc., the author could learn some additional techniques such as **hypothetical anecdote, the use of informative verbs, and word referents.** *Section 5 Informational & Opinion Writing Guide*

Wow! Is Autumn Here Already?

Don't you just love Halloween with all the smell and things to see? I love the feeling of autumn rushing against my body. Autumn is my favorite time of the year. There are so many things to see, smell, and feel.

Don't the smells of fall just make your stomach gurgle with hunger? Buttered popcorn sounds so good after walking around the whole street, trick or treating. You can bet that the smells of hot cocoa will get me to drink two sweet, chocolaty mugs. When you walk up the street don't you love to smell candles burning briskly in their cups? I sure do, especially when it's a brisk cool night. In autumn there are a lot of new things to smell.

I love the feel of autumn. The brisk cool wind feels great brushing against your how sweaty face after walking up and down the street. If you fall in the damp frosty grass, you are sure to get water on your clean warm pants. When you're picking out your pumpkin, it feels so good to just run your hands over the smooth slippery pumpkin skin. Hayrides are really fun, going bumpety bump, but don't you hate it when the hay scratches your legs? It feels so rough and pointy. Most of the feels of fall are great.

During autumn there are so many beautiful things popping out. Red and yellow leaves let me know that fall is here and that it is almost time to rake these wonderful colorful leaves. I love lying out on the grass looking up at the clear baby blue sky, just watching it go by and by. Sometimes the scary pumpkins make you jump when you see them out of the corner of your eye. They are freaky. The flying geese are fun to watch go by in their formation. There are so many wonderful things to see in autumn.

Autumn is my favorite time of the year. There are so many things to see and feel. If I were you I would keep your taste buds on. You never know when you are going to smell and taste something yummy. I know I would. Autumn is a very special time of the year. To me, it's great!

Lead-question

Effective Title!

Wow! Is Autumn Here Already?

Don't you just love Halloween with all the smells and things to see? I love the feeling of autumn rushing against my body. Autumn is my favorite time of the year.

There are so many things to see, smell, and feel. topic sentence

Don't the smells of fall just make your stomach gurgle with hunger? Buttered popcorn sounds so good after walking around the whole street, trick or treating. You can bet that the smells of hot cocoa will get me to drink two sweet, chocolaty mugs. When you walk up the street don't you love to smell candles burning briskly in their cups? I sure do, especially when it's a brisk cool night. In autumn there are a lot of new things to smell.

word choice - aroma, fragrance, (nouns, verbs)

I love the feel of autumn. The brisk cool wind feels great brushing against your now sweaty face after walking up and down the street. If you fall in the damp frosty grass, you are sure to get water on your clean warm pants. When you're picking out your pumpkin, it feels so good to just run your hands over the smooth slippery pumpkin skin. Hayrides are really fun, going bumpety bump, but don't you hate it when the hay scratches your legs? It feels so rough and pointy. Most of the feels of fall are great.

Great specific sensory detail!

During autumn there are so many beautiful things popping out. Red and yellow leaves let me know that fall is here and that it is almost time to rake these wonderful colorful leaves. I love lying out on the grass looking up at the clear baby blue sky, just watching it go by and by. Sometimes the scary pumpkins make you jump when you see them out of the corner of your eye. They are freaky. The flying geese are fun to watch go by in their formation. There are so many wonderful things to see in autumn.

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doesn't directly relate to main ideas.

Conclusion is very general - try a hypothetical anecdote, or creative restatement of main ideas.

Strong organization