

You Write It

Help us make this story more descriptive!

DIRECTIONS:

1. Read the story below.
2. Notice the words in **bold**. They are vague—meaning they are not very descriptive.
3. Follow the prompts in the green circles to make the writing more vivid. Good luck!

A Day at the Pool

It's the middle of July and impossibly hot outside. Lucky for you, your mom has agreed to drive you to the town pool.

Sweat trickles down your back and onto the car's sticky leather seat. As you enter the parking lot, you hear **sounds**. You barely allow the car to stop before you fling the door open and **go** to the entrance.

This doesn't tell us much. What **KINDS** of sounds? **HINT:** Think about what you might hear at a public pool.

Find a verb that describes **HOW** you move. **HINT:** What do context clues reveal about how you move?

You barrel through the gate and there it is—**the pool**. You slip off your flip-flops. The **concrete feels hot** as you trot toward the pool's edge. You take a deep breath—**you smell chlorine**—and then you jump. Splash! The icy water envelops your skin as you plunge downward. Exhilarated, you pop back up to the surface. You think you might stay in the pool forever.

Snore! Add an adjective or two to describe the pool.

What a great place for a simile! Add one here. **HINT:** What does the ground feel **LIKE**?

HOW does chlorine smell? How does it affect your nose? **HINT:** Rewrite the phrase.

“You Write It” Model Text

A Day at the Pool

Sweat trickles down your back and onto the car’s sticky leather seat. As you enter the parking lot, you hear delighted shrieks, playful splashing, and the cautionary shriek of the lifeguard’s whistle. You barely allow the car to stop before you fling the door open and rush to the entrance. You barrel through the gate and there it is—the glistening blue pool. You slip off your flip-flops. The concrete feels like hot coals on the bottoms of your feet as you trot toward the pool’s edge. You take a deep breath—the sharp, acrid smell of chlorine tingles your nostrils—and then you jump. Splash! The icy water envelops your skin as you plunge downward. Exhilarated, you pop back up to the surface. You think you might stay in here forever.

Note: *Scope* does not accept Google Docs. If you are e-mailing your entry, please send a .pdf or .doc file.

Dallol Contest

Read the paragraph on page 32 of your September 2017 issue of *Scope*. Note the words and phrases in bold. They are vague—meaning they are not very descriptive. Follow the prompts in the blue circles to make the writing more vivid. Three winners will each get a \$25 Visa gift card and have their entries published online.

Entries will be judged on:

- ⇒ creativity
- ⇒ grammar
- ⇒ clarity
- ⇒ strength of descriptive language

My name: _____

My home phone number: _____ My grade: _____

My teacher's name: _____ My teacher's e-mail: _____

School name: _____

School address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

School phone number: _____

My parent or legal guardian consents to my participation in this contest.

Parent's or legal guardian's signature: _____

Include this form with your written entry and send both to: scopemag@scholastic.com
or mail them to: Dallol Contest, c/o *Scope*, P.O. Box 712, New York, NY 10013-0712

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY October 25, 2017!