

KENSUKE'S KINGDOM

When Michael is shipwrecked alone on an island, he is not used to the strange sounds he hears at night. This is a description from the text:

The howling had started up again far away in the forest, a last mellifluous evensong, a chanting that went on and on until darkness covered the island. Insects (that is what I presumed they were anyway) whirred and whined from the forest. There was a hollow tapping, like a frantic woodpecker. There was scraping, scratching, and a grunting grating noise that sounded like frogs. The whole orchestra of the jungle was tuning up.

The jungle droned and cackled and croaked, and all night long the mosquitoes were at me too. They whined in my ears and drove me mad.



Writing challenge

Choose a place you know well or can imagine clearly. Write a short description of the place **using only the sounds you can hear.**

Morpurgo masterclass

Just like Michael Morpurgo, you could use:

- similes or metaphors
- small details to bring the scene to life
- well-chosen vocabulary
- alliteration

Stuck for ideas?

You could write about:

- the frozen Arctic
- a busy city
- your classroom
- the local playground
- the seaside on a windy day

