

MYSTERY MANSION

Humor Writing

- Allow the reader to find the humor through your descriptions.
- What are the characters doing that makes it funny?
- **Simile** – a comparison using *like* or *as*. *The pizza tasted like an old shoe.*
- **Metaphor** – a comparison not using *like* or *as*. *The room was a pig sty.*
- **Hyperbole** – an exaggeration. *This movie will never end.*
- **Parody** – a humorous imitation. *The bear and three Goldilocks.*

Essay #1: Write a humorous story about owning an alleged haunted house. No violence, crime, or gore – it's not that kind of house. **(18-24 sentences)**

“Thank you, Mrs. Riley, winner of a new cat. Next, the grand prize winner in our town raffle is none other than Alex Sanchez. Congratulations! Here are the keys to your brand new haunted – I mean *allegedly* haunted – house,” smiled a gleeful mayor as she clapped excitedly.

I just won a brand new old house. Haunted-shmaunted. I now have my own place – the only fifth grade homeowner in town! All that house needs is a good dusting and some new paint... I hope.



Essay #2: Write a parody about cleaning a haunted house. **(14-18 sentences)**

The agency just called, and they needed the truck over at the old Fillmore mansion for a thorough cleaning. Today was my first day working for Cleo's Quick & Clean, a housekeeping service specializing in dog, tree, and haunted houses.

Essay #3: Write a humorous story about teaching Grandma Trudy how to turn her old house into a mystery mansion. No violence, crime, or gore. **(12-16 sentences)**

Grandma Trudy wanted all the spooky antics that go with creating a haunted house. However, I just shook my head when she came down the staircase dressed as a ghost. “No, grandma, the sheet needs to be plain white, not a checkered quilt.” Clearly, this was going to take time.