

# Words, phrases and sentences to describe a storm

- ★ Behind him
- ★ Above them
- ★ Directly overhead
- ★ From the heavens
- ★ Ahead and below them
- ★ Ground around him
- ★ Down the slope
- ★ *Unnaturally dark sky*
- ★ Murky black
- ★ Boiling, black clouds
- ★ Dark, storm clouds
- ★ Funnel cloud
- ★ Gigantic bank of dark cloud
- ★ Layers of heavy, black clouds
- ★ Fingers of swirling black cloud
- ★ Swirling vortex of black and silver
- ★ Maelstrom of cloud and rain
- ★ Menacing whirl of grey and white
- ★ Grey, ominous and threatening
- ★ Powerful, dangerous and menacing
- ★ Misty haze like a veil
- ★ *Breath of wind*
- ★ Cold breeze
- ★ Bitter winds
- ★ Cold, shivering wind
- ★ Like the touch of cold fingers
- ★ Surging wind
- ★ Violent wind
- ★ Ferocious wind
- ★ Like an inky black finger
- ★ Swirling cone of black vapour
- ★ Like a gust of icy wind
- ★ Icy shards
- ★ Like some giant, invisible hand
- ★ *Lightning bolt*
- ★ Flash of lightning
- ★ Savage crack of lightning
- ★ A great flare of lightning
- ★ A fork of lightning
- ★ Flash of brilliant white lightning
- ★ Flickering white light
- ★ Trails of lightning
- ★ Jagged spears of lightning
- ★ Dazzling arrows of lightning

- ★ Huge, guillotine blade of lightning
- ★ Eerie light
- ★ *Clap of thunder*
- ★ Like an exploding firework
- ★ Like the echo of a drum
- ★ Thunderous echo
- ★ *High branches*
- ★ With a sharp crack
- ★ Sickening creak
- ★ Ear-splitting crash
- ★ Sudden screech of anger
- ★ *A trickle of water*
- ★ Showers of heavy rain
- ★ Wall of the storm
- ★ *Far out at sea*
- ★ Over the shore
- ★ *A bulging blister of churning grey water*
- ★ Dark, grey sea around them
- ★ Menacing crests
- ★ Huge wall of water
- ★ Swirling current
- ★ *Trunks as big as telephone poles*

## PHRASES – VERBS

- ★ *As if the world had been drained of all colour*
- ★ Brought a feeling of dread and menace
- ★ As darkness fell, the storm worsened
- ★ As night approached, the wind strengthened
- ★ *Looked up to see . . .*
- ★ Wasn't there before
- ★ *Dark clouds gathered*
- ★ Massed above her
- ★ Drifted across the sky
- ★ Whirled up in strange clouds
- ★ Darkened the air with boiling clouds of dust
- ★ Cast long shadows down the mountainside
- ★ Blotted out the sun
- ★ Clung to the hill
- ★ Blanketed the city
- ★ Formed a misty, silver veil
- ★ *Grew and swelled as if it was alive*
- ★ Seemed to come from all directions at once

- ★ Did not just come from one direction
- ★ Gained power all the time
- ★ Grew to a thing of force and fury
- ★ Grew stronger by the minute
- ★ *Writhed and twisted*
- ★ Flurried and swirled around her
- ★ Like being buffeted by a whirlwind
- ★ Whirled around her
- ★ Hit like an avalanche of cold
- ★ *Whistled and sighed*
- ★ Shrieked towards them
- ★ Howled in the courtyard
- ★ Deepened its roar as it pounded against the doors
- ★ Rattled the bare branches of the shivering trees
- ★ Grated together like broken teeth
- ★ Banged wildly in the sudden gust of wind
- ★ Roared through the hall
- ★ Filled with the sound of its roar
- ★ Screamed through the trees
- ★ Howled over the castle
- ★ Shrieked through the courtyard
- ★ Heard the crack and groan of the falling tree
- ★ Echoed down the mountains
- ★ *Bent the trees*
- ★ Whipped and stabbed at the forest
- ★ Thrashed and writhed against the fierce gale
- ★ Arched from side to side
- ★ Wound itself round the ancient trunks
- ★ Tore at the bark
- ★ Made the branches writhe
- ★ Like wooden tentacles searching for prey
- ★ *Rushed towards the mountain*
- ★ Beat like a fist against the roof
- ★ Swirled like a hurricane from wall to wall, floor to ceiling
- ★ Flung itself at the battlements
- ★ Twisted round the towers
- ★ *Carried her voice away*
- ★ Stole their shouts
- ★ *Whispered across her skin*
- ★ Blew on the backs of their necks and ears
- ★ Ticked his ear like a feather
- ★ Made the skin on his neck prickle with foreboding
- ★ *As the wind shoved and tugged fiercely at him . . .*
- ★ Slowed his stride
- ★ Torn apart by the jagged spears of lightning
- ★ Burst across the crest of the oncoming storm
- ★ *Lit up the whole scene*
- ★ Split the sky
- ★ Cut through the darkness like camera flashes
- ★ Flooded the land
- ★ Touched the roof of the cave
- ★ Lit up the sky above the mountain
- ★ Illuminated the sky with a stark, blue-whiteness
- ★ *Seared his vision*
- ★ Blinded him as it flickered in and out
- ★ *Clouds parted*
- ★ A hole opened in the clouds
- ★ Crashed together, boiling and shrieking
- ★ Began to swell and pour down in streams
- ★ Rushed through the trees
- ★ Burst like waterfalls from the mouth of the darkening sky
- ★ Shrieked through the forest
- ★ Began to pound his skull
- ★ As though the huge raindrops were fired from a cannon
- ★ Hissed and spat like a bonfire
- ★ Ran into his eyes and blurred his vision
- ★ Churned into a swirling, miniature hurricane
- ★ Snaked its way down the hill
- ★ Swallowed the mountain
- ★ Encircled the forest
- ★ *Trudged on through the wet and mud*
- ★ Soaked to the skin
- ★ Ran down his hair
- ★ Followed the line of his spine to his waist
- ★ *Trapped by the black blanket of sea and sky*
- ★ Looked as if the sea was boiling
- ★ Began to swirl and churn fiercely
- ★ Had become a surging torrent
- ★ As the lake boiled and churned . . .
- ★ Foamed as the waves dashed against the rocks
- ★ Churned the spray into foam
- ★ Rolled and rushed, churned and boiled
- ★ Hurling white crested waves at the shore
- ★ Thundered towards them from the sea
- ★ Swallowed trees and land, spread and swirled
- ★ *Battered the ship*
- ★ Broke against the sides of the boat
- ★ Rocked and pitched in the heavy swells

## SENTENCES

The whole world seemed unnaturally dark, as if it had been drained of all light before a terrible storm broke.

She looked up to see a dark cloud that wasn't there moments before.

Above the ridge, dark clouds were gathering, casting long shadows down the mountainside.

Layers of heavy black clouds clung to the hill and blanketed the city.

A gigantic bank of dark cloud was massing above her. It seemed to writhe and twist, growing and swelling as if it were alive.

Dark storm clouds sped over the waves to blot out the sun.

The clouds rushed towards the mountain, trailing veils of rain in their wake.

*The storm was an awesome spectacle, but powerful, dangerous and menacing.*

A hole opened in the clouds – a swirling vortex of black and silver.

Fingers of swirling black cloud came down from the sky to whip and stab at the forest.

The storm churned into a swirling, miniature hurricane, which blocked their way, pushed them back down the slope.

A funnel cloud snaked its way down the hill like an inky black finger.

The storm swallowed the hill in a swirling cone of black vapour.

*The thunder struggled and howled in fits and starts, until it rumbled closer and closer, and crashed overhead.*

Thunder boomed through the city, shaking it to its core, and streaking through the streets like an exploding firework.

The air shook as the loud, booming wind hammered at the trees, and thunder crashed and roared overhead.

Thunder rumbled in the distance, the sky continued to darken, and the wind blew harder, gusting against the walls, screaming through the ruins.

The branches, then the whole tree shuddered with a crack of thunder. Another explosion, but much bigger this time. It felt as if the ground beneath his feet was being ripped apart.

*Lightning tore through the sky, blinding him as it flickered in and out.*

An immense, dazzling, guillotine blade of lightning streaked across the night sky, illuminating it with a stark blue-whiteness and flooding the land.

Flickering white light burst across the crest of the oncoming storm.

White bursts of light, one after another, cut through the darkness like camera flashes.

Overhead, lightning ripped through one of the dark clouds, and the thunder crashed around them like a huge fist pounding the sky.

*The cold breeze caught their cloaks, tugging at their hoods.*

The breeze was cold, the sky grey, ominous and threatening, the misty haze like a veil drifting across the sky, bringing with it a feeling of dread and menace.

*From out of nowhere, a violent wind began to blow from the sea.*

The wind seemed to grow in strength and was soon screaming through the trees.

The bitter winds and harsh whispers rattled the bare branches of the trees, which grated together like broken teeth.

The tops of the trees were bending, arching from side to side, whistling and sighing as the wind wound itself around the ancient trunks, through the tangle of leaves, tearing at the bark.

The forest seemed to thrash and writhe against the fierce gale – creaking and groaning as the wind rushed through the trees, twisting branches, making them flail like the arms of monsters searching for prey.

The wind was ferocious, gaining power all the time, until it screamed over the castle and beat like a fist against the walls, flung itself against the battlements, howled into the courtyard, twisted round the towers, blasted the doors, smashing them back and forth against the wall with a thud, roared through the hall, swirling like a hurricane from wall to wall, floor to ceiling.