Good readers create sensory mental images from written or oral text.

Sensory images
- Include pictures, smells, tastes, sounds, feelings
- Create the cinema unfolding in the reader’s mind that make reading three-dimensional or like watching a movie
- Connected to the reader’s life experiences and memories
- Serves as an assessment tool
  - When a movie gets fuzzy, the viewer rewinds and watches again. So when a reader cannot create the images, it is a signal for the reader to reread.
  - Explaining or labeling of the reader’s visualization helps
    - reveal gaps in understanding
    - summarize the text
    - aids in determining important ideas
- Serves as a “self-monitoring” tool
- Assists in moving from literal interpretation to inferential thinking.
- Used with fiction, informational text, and poetry.

Activities:
- Tell the images that a reader sees when listening
- Draw the images of the scenes heard during listening
- Label the images
- Create illustrations, graphs, charts, timelines, and diagrams
- Listen to music or sound associated with the text

Language in text that aids in visualization
- Use of strong verbs, nouns and adjectives
- Use of figurative language
  - Simile
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Hyperbole
  - Imagery
- Idioms
- Onomatopoeia


