



Phrases to Describe A Picture

Top Tips

- ⇒ Look at the picture in detail first before describing it
- ⇒ Remember to describe pictures in the present continuous tense
- ⇒ Be methodical in your description, following the structure set out below.

Are there people?

- ⇒ What are the people doing? Do you know who it is?
- ⇒ What are they wearing?
- ⇒ What is their physical appearance?
- ⇒ What are their emotions?
- ⇒ Is the main subject of the picture? Why/not?

Are there objects?

- ⇒ What object can you see?
- ⇒ Describe the shape, style, formation, use, material.

Are there animals?

- ⇒ What is the animal?
- ⇒ What does it look like - describe the physical traits..
- ⇒ What is the emotion of the animal?

Is it a place?

- ⇒ Where is the picture?
- ⇒ What can you see in the background/foreground?
- ⇒ What is the atmosphere/feeling of the place?

What do you think?

- ⇒ What is this image telling you? What are the meanings behind the image?
- ⇒ Do you like/dislike the image? Why?

Parts of the Picture

- ⇒ In the picture
- ⇒ In the background/ foreground/ distance
- ⇒ At the top/ at the bottom
- ⇒ On the right-hand side/ on the left-hand side
- ⇒ In the bottom left-hand corner / in the top right-hand corner
- ⇒ Above
- ⇒ Below

Interpretation of the Picture

- ⇒ From what we can see here ...
- ⇒ This picture reminds me of ...
- ⇒ What strikes me about this picture is the fact that ...
- ⇒ Judging from this picture, ...
- ⇒ When you give it a closer look, it reveals ...
- ⇒ The thing that really jumps out of this picture is ...