

Esa Unggul

Smart, Creative and Entreprenurial

PARAGRAPH WRITING

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5th Meeting

Compose a Descriptive Text: Describing things



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

 After completing this course, students are expected to be able to identify, classify, and compose paragraphs of descriptive text

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Describing Things

We use the linking verb 'be' to describe things.

 It is called a linking verb because it links the subject to a description, for example:

The Iphone is a smart phone.

My books **are** interesting.

My car is a Toyota.



Here are some sentences that describe a computer (singular): Universitas

The computer **is** very expensive. It **is** very fast. It **is** very modern. It **is** the best laptop on the market. It **is** good value-for-money. It **is** available in most department stores and shopping malls. It **is** a Compaq Presario.



Here are some sentences that describe Toyota cars (plural):



Toyota cars **are** very reliable. Toyota cars **are** cheap to repair. Toyota cars **are** available in most countries. Toyota cars **are** made in Thailand. Toyota cars **are** reasonably priced. Some Toyota cars **are** small and suitable for city driving. Some Toyota cars **are** large and are suitable for families. Toyota pick-ups **are** very strong.

We use the verb 'It is used for'/ 'it can/could be used to' (passive voice)' to describe the function of something

What is that sponge used for? (passive) / What do you use that sponge for? (active)

- It is used for **cleaning** my car ('for' with a gerund) \rightarrow Verb+ing
- o It is used to clean my car.



('to' with an infinitive) \rightarrow to + Verb 1

We use the verb 'have' to describe the features that belong to something.

 My telephone has a camera. My telephone has a USB port. My telephone has a large memory. My telephone hasmany uses. My telephone has a headphone socket.

 My classrooms have many tables and chairs. My classrooms have overhead projectors. My classrooms havecomputers and microphones. My classrooms have air conditioners. My classrooms have white boards.





We use the verb 'It looks like…' When two things look similar

- I look like my father. (First person)
- You look like a monkey. (Second person)
- My brother looks like our mother. (Third person singular)
- My sister **looks** like the next door neighbor. (Third person singular)
- My cat **looks** like a tiger. (Third person singular)
- (See Self Study Pack #4 for more explanations and links)

We use the verb 'It is made of... /It is made from...' to identify the material of something

- A bottle is made of glass. (It is still glass)
- The chair is made of wood. (It is still wood)

We use 'it is made from' to describe the ingredients that are used to make something new or different.

- Wine is made from grapes (It is now wine. It has been changed into something else)
- Paper is made from wood. (It is now paper. It is not wood anymore.)
- A cake is made from flour, eggs and sugar. (It is now a cake)



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Things can be described in the following ways:

size: enormous, huge, very large, large, big, quite big, medium-sized, quite small, small, very small, tiny

weight: very heavy, heavy, quite heavy, not very heavy, light, very light

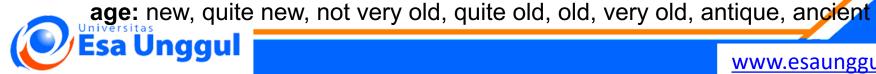
shape: round, square, oval, flat, rectangular

colour: black, grey, brown, blue, purple, green, yellow, orange, red, white

materials: wooden, steel, plastic, glass, brick, stone, pottery

flavours: sweet, sour, salty, spicy, rich, oily, buttery, creamy, bland

appearance: ugly, beautiful, cute, lovely, sweet, attractive, modern



References:

- McCarthy, Tara. 2009. 100 Writing Lessons (Narrative, Descriptive, Expository and Persuasive). USA: Scholastic Teaching Resources
- <u>https://www.teach-this.com/functional-activities-</u> worksheets/describing-things
- Ching, Roberta J. 2008. A Text-Based Grammar for Expository Reading and Writing. California: CCSEA
- <u>http://dpuic.dpu.ac.th/resources/online-resources/english-in-use-support-files/describing-things/</u>



OTHANK YOU!

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