

*Smart, Creative and Entrepreneurial*



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# PARAGRAPH WRITING

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5<sup>th</sup> 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 car **is** a Toyota.

My books **are** interesting.



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

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) → Verb+ing
- It is used to **clean** my car. ('to' with an infinitive) → 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 **has** many uses. My telephone **has** a headphone socket.
- My classrooms **have** many tables and chairs. My classrooms **have** overhead projectors. My classrooms **have** computers and microphones. My classrooms **have** air conditioners. My classrooms **have** white boards.



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**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)

**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

**age:** new, quite new, not very old, quite old, old, very old, antique, ancient

## References:

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- <http://dpuic.dpu.ac.th/resources/online-resources/english-in-use-support-files/describing-things/>





○ **THANK YOU!**

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