

The Fifth and the Sixth Lectures

Descriptive and Process Paragraphs

In this lecture, you will learn about ...

- descriptive paragraphs and reasons for writing them.
- organizing and writing descriptive paragraphs using adjectives and prepositions,
- process paragraphs and reasons for writing them.
- using transition words to write a process paragraph.

1- Descriptive paragraphs

A descriptive paragraph explains how someone or something looks or feels. In this type, we use **adjectives**. They are words that tell us how things look, feel, taste, sound, or smell. Adjectives also describe how you feel about something. Here are a few common adjectives. See the adjective list on page 25.

- To write a good descriptive paragraph, you can answer these questions:

Description of a PLACE may answer some of these questions:

- **Where is the place?**
- **How big is it?**
- **How warm or cold is the place?**
- **How (does) the place make you feel? Why?**
- **What things can you see in this place?**
- **What colors do you see?**

Niagara Falls, a popular destination for thousands of visitors each year, is a beautiful place. When you stand at the edge and look down at the 188 feet of white waterfalls, you feel amazed at the power of nature. The tree-lined river that leads into the falls is fast-moving, pouring over the edge of the falls and crashing to the bottom in a loud roar. If you want to experience the falls close up, go for a boat ride. You'll come near enough to look up at the roaring streams of water flowing over the edge and feel the cool mist that rises as the water hits the rocks below. Seeing Niagara Falls is an unforgettable experience!

- **Using prepositions in describing the place around you**

Prepositions tell us how a space is organized. These are some common and useful prepositions:

in front of / behind

to the right of / To the left of

on top of / on the bottom of

in the middle of

next to above

around

between

below, underneath

- **Describing Characters (Persons)**

Here are some common adjectives for describing people:

Personality

happy,
satisfied
relaxed
exciting
nervous
angry
serious
sad, depressed
outgoing

Physical characteristics

big, large, tall
small, tiny, short
thin
heavy
strong
weak
brown-, black-, blond-, red-haired
light-, dark-skinned

- A description of a person may answer some of the following questions:
 - **Who is the person?**
 - **What does the person do?**
 - **What does he or she look like?**
 - **How does the person act—what is his or her personality like?**
 - **How does he or she make others feel?**

Read the passage on page 28.

The sixth Lecture

2- Process paragraphs

A process paragraph explains how something is done. A process paragraph is a description of how to do something. It explains the steps you need to follow to complete an activity. Read this recipe and do the

Mikes Brown Rice and Vegetables

Ingredients

- two cups of brown rice*
- one tablespoon of cooking oil*
- three tablespoons of chili sauce*
- three cloves of garlic*
- one green pepper*
- one red pepper*
- one onion*
- two tomatoes*
- two onions*
- salt*
- pepper*

brown rice and vegetables is a simple and delicious meal to make. First, cook the rice, following the directions on the packet. Then, cut vegetables into one-inch pieces. Next, heat the chili sauce, and garlic in a frying pan. After that, add the vegetables and fry them until they are but still a little bit crunchy. Now, it's time to stir the cooked rice. After stirring the rice and vegetables together, add salt and pepper to own taste. Finally, put the rice and vegetables a large bowl! and serve it with freshly chopped tomatoes and onions on top. Now, you are ready to enjoy year delicious brown rice and vegetables!

Q/ Underline the topic sentence and the concluding sentence of the paragraph.

Q/ List the steps for making brown rice and vegetables in the order you find them.

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.....
.....

- **Transitions**

Transitions are words that connect the steps in a paragraph. Transition words and phrases show the relationships between the ideas in a paragraph. They are not used between every sentence, but are used often enough to make the order clear. Here are some common transition words and phrases that show the order or the order of steps:

after, after that, while, next, the next step,

next, the last step, the first step, at first

then, before, meanwhile,

Q/ Think of other transition words.

Q/ Complete the passage on paragraph on page 30.