



Writing a Description

Exercise 1

TASK 1

Describe the picture. Answer the following questions in your description:

What do you see in the picture below?

What might this picture illustrate?

What does the picture make you think of?

Write your answer in 100–120 words.



TASK 2

Imagine that the picture from task 1 is given to you as a visual prompt for an essay. Think of and write down 3 essay topics relevant to the picture.

TASK 3

Read the description below, which answers task 1. What are its weak points?

The picture shows a strange thing. This thing is white. It has three shadows. The shadows are on three walls: red, blue and yellow. The shadows are different, because the shape of the thing is strange.

The picture shows that if we look at something we see only one side, and if we look at another side, we see something else. It means that if we want to know what this something really looks like, we must look at it from different sides.

This picture makes me think that when we see or experience something, we should understand that we don't know what it really is and we must remember that it can be different from what we see.

TASK 4

Look again at the description you wrote for task 1. Does it have any weak points like the one in task 3? If it does, improve your description. The vocabulary below might be of help:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • look at the problem from every aspect | • cast a shadow |
| • angle of vision | • resemble |
| • scratch the surface of something | • represent |
| • peculiar | • reflect |
| • bizarre | • create / give an impression |
| • ray of light | • make an accurate / balanced judgement |
| • spotlight | • draw a false conclusion |

TASK 5

- a) Explain the difference between the words «shade» and «shadow».
b) Fill in the gaps with either «shade» or «shadow».

1. We sat down in the _____ of the wall.
2. The industry is a pale _____ of its former self.
3. Children were having fun, chasing each other's _____s.
4. The ship's sail cast a _____ on the water.
5. The temperature can reach 40°C in the _____.
6. These plants grow well in sun or _____.
7. The _____s lengthened as the sun went down.

8. The word has many _____s of meaning.
9. He didn't want to cast a _____ on their happiness.
10. She knew beyond a _____ of a doubt that he was lying.
11. She looked pale, with deep _____s under her eyes.
12. He threw out his old suits, all in various _____s of brown.
13. Her eyes were a delicate _____ of green.
14. The candles on the table threw huge flickering _____s against the wall.

TASK 6

Change the word «circle» to form words that fit in the gaps.

1. Using small _____ movements, massage the muscles on either side of the spine.
2. The condition prevents blood from _____ freely.
3. Copies of the magazine were withdrawn from _____.
4. The _____ system is an organ system that permits blood to _____ and transport nutrients to and from the cells in the body.

TASK 7

- a) Fill in the gap with one of the words from the box to get an idiom.
- b) Explain the meaning of each idiom.

shape	square	circles	triangle
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1. go round in _____
2. a _____ meal
3. a love _____
4. out of _____