**A DESCRIPTIVE ESSAY**

**DEFINITION:** It is an essay in which the writer describes an object, a situation, a person, a place, an event….

**PURPOSE:** The aim is to make the reader feel like he/she sees the object, the person, the place, or lives the situation himself/herself, as if he/she were there.

**STRUCTURE:** A descriptive essay consists of three major parts.

1. INTRODUCTION. The writer states the reason he/she describes a an object, person, situation….

* A strong opening to catch the reader’s attention: a “hook sentence”.
* Don’t give away anything too juicy yet!!
* Give brief background information. Remember: BRIEF!!, don’t lose the reader’s attention.
* At the end, provide a statement revealing the reason for describing the object, person….

1. BODY. It usually contains:
2. Paragraph 1: description of the object, for example, with all the details observed.

* List of details, also giving semi-relevant information about the described object, person…. Keep the reader thinking and making inferences.
* Use of metaphors and comparison

1. Paragraph 2: description of the surroundings and the atmosphere around the object.

* The reader should feel like he/she is involved in the experience.
* Use of metaphors and comparison

1. Paragraph 3: description of the sensual and emotional effects of the scene.

* Appeal to all the senses: taste, touch, smell, sound, sight to make the experience alive: make the story as tasty as possible.

1. CONCLUSION. It shows the importance of the described object, person, situation for the writer, and goes back, closing the circle, to the introduction of the essay.

* Summarize your physical and emotional attitude to the described object, person: the reader wahts to know how this thing, person, experience…, affected your life.
* Restate the meaning of the experience for you with an intriguing thought, question or quotation. In other words end your essay with a clincher.

**REALLY IMPORTANT!!!: Create a dominant impression. Everything in your essay will be sumbitted to it.**

For further information:

<https://es.slideshare.net/yarashokry/descriptive-essay-writing> (really good: structure, characteristics……)

<http://www.scoolwork.com/EssayWritingGuide/how_to_write_a_descriptive_essay_on_any_topic.aspx> (see examples of three ways of organising the body of your description essay)

TASK 1: Write a descriptive essay. Choose one of these options:

* Describe somebody you admire in your family.
* Describe your favourite place on the planet.
* Describe a loving memory for you.
* Describe an important event for you.

TASK 2: Make a presentation in class. Speak out your descriptive exercise to your class.