

## **DESCRIPTIVE ESSAY**

Descriptive language is used to create atmosphere and mood: films do this visually; writers do this with words, where the choice of words is mostly determined by what is implied (figurative meaning) rather than by the literal meaning (actual meaning).

### **Instructions:**

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them.

1. Choose one (1) topic from the selection and write a descriptive essay of between 150 and 200 words.
2. Describe someone/something to allow the reader to experience the topic vividly.
3. Create pictures in words.
4. Choose words and expressions carefully to achieve the desired effect.
5. Use images of sight, sound, hearing, taste and touch.
6. Use figures of speech.
7. Plan properly before you attempt to write.

Your essay must focus on the following:

- word choice
- personal voice and style
- vivid description
- tone
- main and supporting ideas
- mind-map to organise coherent ideas
- presentation of the essay for assessment

## **REMEMBER TO FOLLOW THE WRITING PROCESSES.**

### **Topics**

1. Saturday morning at the shopping mall
2. Now or never
3. The apple of my eye

OR

Select one picture and write an essay about it.

Note: There must be a clear link between the essay and the picture you have chosen.

4.1



4.2



**RUBRIC FOR ESSAY WRITING (40 marks)**

<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Elementary</b>
	<b>8-10 Marks</b>	<b>6-7 Marks</b>	<b>3-5 Marks</b>	<b>1-2 Marks</b>
<b>Planning, coherence, introduction and conclusion</b>	Thorough planning. Effective introduction and conclusion.	Planning evident. Introduction and conclusion adequate for task	Some evidence of planning, ineffective introduction; weak conclusion.	No evidence of planning, no introduction, no conclusion.
	<b>8-10 Marks</b>	<b>6-7 Marks</b>	<b>3-5 Marks</b>	<b>1-2 Marks</b>
<b>Originality in handling topic</b>	Handling of topic shows originality.	Handling of topic shows some originality.	Some attempt at originality but topic generally handled in mundane way.	No originality. Muddled handling of topic.
	<b>5 Marks</b>	<b>3 Marks</b>	<b>2 Marks</b>	<b>1 Mark</b>
<b>Paragraphing, development of topic</b>	Essay paragraphed well. Logical and effective connectors used between paragraphs. Handling of topic shows originality.	Adequate paragraphing. Topic handled systematically. Logical connectors used between paragraphs.	Some attempt at paragraphing but little topical unity within paragraphs. Topic handled in mundane way. Few connectors between paragraphs.	Solid writing, no paragraphing. Muddled handling of topic.
	<b>5 Marks</b>	<b>3 Marks</b>	<b>2 Marks</b>	<b>1 Mark</b>
<b>Register, tone, awareness of audience and purpose. Additional evidence or criteria required for this type of writing</b>	Register used skillfully. Subtle use of tone enhances essay. Purpose of essay fully achieved.  Fully achieved.	Appropriate register used. Some skillful use of tone. Purpose of essay achieved.  Achieved.	Register appropriate to purpose but little skill in use of tone. Purpose of essay barely achieved.  Barely achieved.	Little awareness of appropriate expression. Purpose of essay not achieved.  Not achieved.
	<b>8-10 Marks</b>	<b>6-7 Marks</b>	<b>3-5 Marks</b>	<b>1-2 Marks</b>
<b>Vocabulary, sentence structure, idiomatic use of language, spelling and punctuation</b>	Excellent use of vocabulary; correct sentence structure, spelling and punctuation; mainly correct language usage.	Wide range of vocabulary; correct sentence structure; few errors in language usage, spelling and punctuation.	Adequate vocabulary; sentences mostly correct; some errors in language usage, spelling and punctuation.	Limited vocabulary; poor sentence structure; errors in language, spelling and punctuation.