

Describing people – a writing framework

Author's notes

Here is a resource I use after teaching adjectives.

Preparation: laminate page 2 and cut into cards, print pages 3 and 4 as needed.

First I give each learner a laminated card and ask them to work in pairs. Each member of the pair takes turns describing the picture to his or her partner. The partner then has to guess which person they are describing.

After 5 minutes I bring the class back together to and ask them to evaluate how clear their descriptions were and how they could have made them clearer.

Next I ask each student to pick a picture and give them the description framework sheets. I find breaking down the description writing into stages makes it less daunting for the learners.

Extension: I have expanded this into writing dating ads for the celebrities, writing a description for the police, and making wanted posters. The possibilities are endless.

Vicky Douglas
Northern Learning Trust

Main Curriculum References

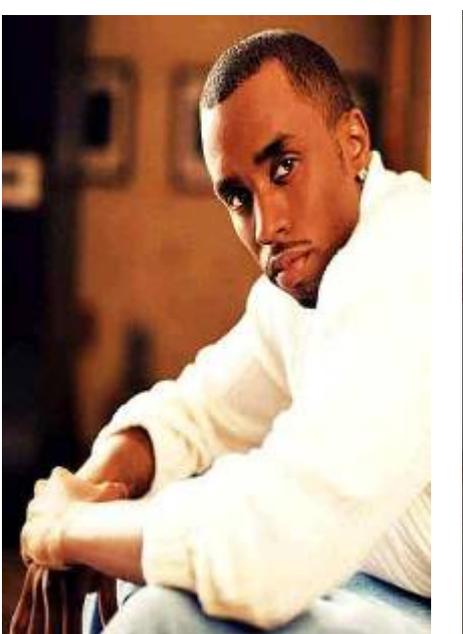
Actual references will vary with the learner group and the way the resource is used.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Wt/E2.1 | Use written words and phrases to record or present information. |
| Wt/E3.1 | Plan and draft writing. |
| Ws/E2.1 | Construct simple and compound sentences, using common conjunctions to connect two clauses (e.g. <i>as, but, and</i>). |
| Ws/E2.2 | Use adjectives
(a) understand that adjectives extend the information in sentences, by providing some detail about a noun
(b) understand that adjectives help the writer to describe people, feelings, places, situations, objects in more detail
(c) understand that the choice of adjectives can often convey a writer's attitude
(d) know and use the term adjective |
| Ws/E3.1 | Write in complete sentences
(a) understand that simple and compound sentences can be amplified by expanding the information about the noun and the verb to give additional information about agents and actions
(b) understand that longer or more complicated sentences are built up according to patterns or rules, relating to word order |

To obtain an editable Word version of this document please send teaching ideas or any adult basic skills resource that you would like to share to

maggie@skillsworkshop.org

THANK YOU



Describing People

1. First, write some adjectives that could be used to describe the person in your picture.
Think about the person's appearance and personality.

Appearance	Personality

2. Next, use the adjectives you have written to make sentences.

3. Now link the sentences together to write your description of the person in your picture.

