

Writing > A Description

When we describe something, we want to give the reader a good idea of what it looks like. When we describe a work of art, we also want to describe its style and the mood that it portrays, as well as express our opinion.

- 1 Read Lucy's description. Then answer the questions below.



CHRISTINA'S WORLD

Christina's World was painted by Andrew Wyeth in 1948. It shows a young woman sitting on the grass and looking at a small, old grey house on the hill. The shapes aren't flat or simple and the painting is very realistic.

It looks like the woman is trying to get to the house, but it is difficult for her. The colours are dull. The woman's dress is painted pink, but it isn't a happy bright colour. The grass is dull green and brown and the house is in sad, dark colours. It doesn't look like a comfortable warm home.

In *Christina's World*, the artist shows the woman's hard life and we can feel it, too. In my opinion, the painting is very interesting.

1. What is the name of the painting?
2. When was it painted?
3. Who painted the painting?
4. What style is it painted in?
5. What is in the picture?
6. What shapes and colours are used?
7. What did the artist want to express?
8. What does the writer think of the painting?

Improve Your Writing Adjective Order

We use adjectives when we write a description of a person, place or thing. When using more than one adjective, we write them in the following order:

opinion • size • age • shape • colour

Find examples of each type of adjective in the model.

Write a description of a work of art.

Easy Start:

Choose a work of art from the Internet or an art history book. Then copy and complete the chart.

Name / Date of work of art:

Name of artist:

Style:

Objects and people (if any):

Shapes and colours:

What the artist wanted to express:

Writer's opinion:

Writing Plan, Workbook, page 116

Task:

Write a description about a work of art. Use the writing model in Exercise 1 to help you. Organise your ideas into paragraphs according to the plan below.

Paragraph 1: Introduce the work of art. Include its name and the date it was created. Describe the style and the objects or people in it.

Paragraph 2: Give more details about the painting.

Paragraph 3: Write what you think the artist was trying to express. Give your opinion.

Extra:

Add at least two sentences describing how the work of art makes you feel and why.

Check your writing:

Checklist:

- ✓ States the name of the work and the artist
- ✓ Describes the work
- ✓ Gives an opinion of the work
- ✓ Uses adjectives in the correct order

- 2 Copy the sentences. Add the adjectives in brackets in the correct order.

1. This portrait shows the face of an man. (old • interesting)
2. The artist uses a lot of shapes. (black • strange • large)
3. The lines look like the waves of the ocean. (curved • long • blue)
4. What do you think of that sculpture in town? (new • white • horrible)