

A Picture Tells 1000 Words

Describe a scene or character to build a story using existing vocabulary and new adjectives.

Level: Intermediate

Time: 45 minutes

Materials: Pictures from magazines, photos, drawings, board or poster

Objectives: Students will use existing vocabulary and new adjectives to describe a scene or character and build a story.

1. Motivation/Warm Up

Pass out pictures from magazines, photographs or drawings to each student. Use one of the pictures or photographs to model how to describe a picture using as many adjectives and descriptive phrases as possible.

2. Presentation

Brainstorm adjectives with the class and create a list on the board or a poster (for later reference). If you have pictures of people, you may wish to teach character traits as well. See the "Character Trait" handout following this lesson plan.)


3. Practice

Have the students come to the front of the room and describe their picture. Keep track of how many different adjectives the students are using and then award prizes or praise to the top three.

4. Produce

Give each student a different picture of a person or people to take home and tell them to write an imaginative story about it. Assign questions to answer in the story like: Who is the character? What are the character traits? Where is the character? What will happen next?

A List of Character Traits



active	compassionate	exciting
adventurous	competitive	fair
affectionate	conceited	faithful
afraid	concerned	fidgety
ambitious	confident	fierce
angry	confused	foolish
annoyed	conscientious	friendly
anxious	considerate	frustrated
argumentative	cooperative	funny
astonished	courageous	generous
attentive	cowardly	gentle
babyish	critical	glamorous
bewildered	cross	gloomy
bored	cruel	greedy
bossy	curious	grouchy
brave	dangerous	happy
brilliant	daring	hateful
busy	dependable	helpful
calm	determined	hopeful
capable	discouraged	hopeless
careful	dishonest	humorous
cautious	disrespectful	ignorant
charismatic	doubtful	imaginative
charming	eager	immature
cheerful	easygoing	impatient
childish	efficient	impolite
clever	embarrassed	impulsive
clumsy	energetic	inactive
cold-hearted	enthusiastic	independent

insistent
intelligent
jealous
jovial
lazy
logical
lonely
loving
loyal
lucky
mature
mean
meticulous
moody
mysterious
nervous
noisy
obedient
obnoxious
observant
optimistic
peaceful
persistent
pessimistic
picky
pleasant
polite
popular
precise
proud

puzzled
quick
quiet
reliable
relieved
respectful
responsible
restless
rowdy
rude
sarcastic
satisfied
scared
secretive
selfish
self-reliant
sensitive
silly
sincere
skillful
sly
smart
sneaky
snobbish
sociable
stingy
strange
strict
stubborn
studious

sweet
tactful
talented
talkative
tasteful
tenacious
terrified
thankful
thoughtful
thoughtless
thrifty
timid
tolerant
touchy
trusting
trustworthy
uncontrolled
unfriendly
unselfish
upset
useful
valiant
versatile
vivacious
vulgar
warm-hearted
weak
wise
witty
worried

