

Lesson-3 (Class IX-X)

Describing People and Places

Materials Designed by **BRAC University Centre for Languages (CfL)**

Tushi is now in Birmingham, a city of the United Kingdom. She is going to study BA in Music at the University of Birmingham. Today she has moved to her new flat. In the following letter she is describing her new flat to her mother. However, in her letter she has made two mistakes in the description of the flat.



Dear Ma,
How are you? How is Baba? I am really sorry for being late in writing you this letter. In fact, I was very busy shifting my things to my new flat.

The flat is very near to my university. The town centre and some Bangladeshi grocery shops are also close to my residence. Although I don't have a lot of things in my flat it is indeed comfortable for me. There is a small bed on the right of the room, a big window just beside the bed and through the window I can see a big cherry tree. On the left side of the bed I have a small bed-side table where my pet gold fish "Toto" stays in its bowl. I also keep my alarm clock on that table. Beside the small table I have a dressing table with a round mirror. On the left side of the room there is a door to go to the wash room. I have a big closet beside that door where I keep my cloths and other valuables.

There is a fire-place in my room and I have placed a soft blue couch in front of the fire-place. I often sit on the couch during leisure time. On the opposite side of the fire-place I have placed my reading desk and beside the desk there is a bookshelf. My computer is on the desk and all my books are in the shelf.

After all, this place is perfect for me. I wish I could bring you and Baba here to stay with me. But that is not possible right now, so I am sending you the photo of the flat. Please do not forget to tell me how you feel about this flat. I will wait for your reply, ma. Give my love to Baba. Miss you all a lot!

Your
Tushi

Look at the following picture. Do you know the man? Yes!!!! He is Michael Jackson. Some words and phrases are given below the picture to describe him. Separate the information that describes his physical appearance and his personality:

... wearing glamorous outfit
... a famous Pop singer
... a very wealthy man
... curly hairs
... middle aged man
... energetic performer
... fantastic composer and lyricist
... fair complexioned
... well built figure

Vocabulary of the Week

Aerial (adjective): in or from the air, especially from an aircraft
Closet (noun): a cupboard or a small room with a door, used for storing things, especially clothes
Complexion (noun): the natural appearance of the skin
Couch (noun): Sofa
Dormant (adjective): describes something that is not active or growing, but which has the ability to be active at a later time
Erupt (verb): to start suddenly and violently
[Source: www.dictionary.cambridge.org]

| Physical appearance | Personality |
|---------------------|-------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Iceland has about 130 volcanic mountains and, due to unique geological conditions, many of them are active. The most recent volcanic eruption in Iceland started on April 14, 2010. The ash cloud was significant enough to shut down airports across more than 20 European countries. Read the following news report to know more about this.

The Icelandic volcano that was dormant for around 200 years has erupted recently making 1 kilometer fracture in the glacier of that area. The volcano began to erupt just after midnight, sending lava a hundred meters high. As a result, all Icelandic air routes have been closed and flights were forced to divert.

The people in the surroundings have reported seeing bright lights coming from the glacier. The Icelandic Civil Aviation Administration has already ordered aircrafts to stay 120 nautical miles away from the volcano area as ashes made the region risky for aircraft movement.

Initially there had been fears that the volcano could cause flooding, as it caused ice to melt on the glacier above it, but that scenario appears to have been avoided. Farming communities living at the foot of the volcano are struggling to save their livestock as the huge clouds of ash have covered the land.

Iceland lies on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the highly volatile boundary between the Eurasian and North American continental plates, with quakes and eruptions.

[Source: www.news.bbc.co.uk]



Look at the following picture. Do you know what and where it is? This is a 7-star hotel named Burj-Al-Arab, situated in Dubai. Some words and phrases are given below the picture to describe it. Separate the information that describes the outlook and the qualities of this place:

... situated in a wonderful location
... provides outstanding facilities to the guests
... curved in shape
... gorgeous decoration inside the hotel
... white in colour
... very tall
... situated on a flat, round, artificial island
... very expensive but comfortable rooms
... far from the main city

| Outlook | Qualities |
|---------|-----------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |



Let it grow...

Healthy soil is the foundation of healthy ecosystem; it nurtures sprouts, supports growth, supplies food and thus supports life on Earth. However, soil cannot do anything unless it is pure. The mother soil is being polluted by our careless use of chemicals, pesticides and unplanned industrialization.

Let us save the soil and Save our planet