

## DESCRIBING & COMPARING PICTURES

### FCE – speaking

Cambridge

English Qualifications

### Prepare 1: Useful vocabulary

Your speaking task is assessed partly for 'Discourse management'. This refers to how clearly your ideas are organised and expressed, how fluently you speak and if you are responding directly to the photos and the question that you have been given (instead of talking about something else!).

Here are some useful expressions to help you with this. Can you put them in the right categories?

In the second picture, we can see...

As for the question...\*

Rather than...

In the first/second picture, there's...

He/she seems to be...

To begin with, ...

In both cases...

The first picture is...

...whereas...

The most obvious difference is...

Overall, ...

...while...

For the first/second picture...

It looks as though...

Organising your response	Describing the photos	Comparing the photos
<p><b>Bonus task:</b></p> <p>Which expression signals that the speaker is now specifically answering the <i>question</i> which the examiner asked?</p>	<p><b>Bonus task:</b></p> <p>Which expressions are used to describe something that is very clear in the photos? Which expressions are used to speculate about something which is <i>not</i> totally clear from the photos?</p>	<p><b>Bonus task:</b></p> <p>Which expressions are used to refer to similarities and which are used to refer to differences? Which expression could be used for both?</p>

Prepare 2: Use position language

<b>IN THE TOP LEFT (-HAND) CORNER</b>	<b>AT THE TOP</b>	<b>IN THE TOP RIGHT (-HAND) CORNER</b>	<b>TOP</b> <b>MIDDLE</b> <b>BOTTOM</b>
<b>ON THE LEFT (-HAND) SIDE</b>	<b>IN THE MIDDLE</b>	<b>ON THE RIGHT (-HAND) SIDE</b>	
<b>IN THE BOTTOM LEFT (-HAND) CORNER</b>	<b>AT THE BOTTOM</b>	<b>IN THE BOTTOM RIGHT (-HAND) CORNER</b>	
<b>IN THE BACKGROUND</b>		<b>IN THE FOREGROUND</b>	



1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare 3: Use the present continuous to describe what's happening in the picture