

DESCRIBING A PICTURE

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(Source: <https://es.slideshare.net/slideshow/describe-pictures-in-english/38986210>)

Warm Up. In pairs, answer the questions:

1. Where are these people, and what kind of place do you think it is?
2. What are they doing in the foreground?
3. What can you see in the background?
4. How are the people feeling, and how can you tell?
5. What do you think they are watching on TV? Why?
6. What are they wearing, and what does this suggest about the occasion?
7. Which details on the left/right/top of the picture catch your attention?
8. How old do you think the people are?
9. Why do you think they chose to watch the event here instead of at home?
10. Would you enjoy being in a place like this during a big match? Why or why not?

Task 1. Complete the description using words or phrases from the box.

in the centre – in the background – cheering – atmosphere – glancing – on the left – illuminated – packed – broadcasting – raising their arms – in the foreground – wooden booths – reacting – focal point – match

In this picture, a lively scene is taking place inside what seems to be a sports bar. 1. _____, several people are 2. _____, clearly 3. _____ to something happening on the large TV screen. Some of them are 4. _____ enthusiastically, while others are 5. _____ at their friends as if they can't believe what just happened.

6. _____, a huge screen is 7. _____ the decisive moments of a 8. _____, which appears to be the 9. _____ of the whole scene. The faces of the spectators are brightly 10. _____ by the light from the screen, making their emotions even more visible.

11. _____, you can see a row of 12. _____, where a few people are sitting more quietly, though the place still looks completely 13. _____. 14. _____, there are bottles and shelves behind the bar area, adding to the warm, buzzing 15. _____ of the venue.

Actions & body language

- * cheering
- * celebrating
- * raising their fists / arms
- * shouting / reacting
- * watching a match
- * holding drinks
- * sitting at tables / standing near the bar

Describing atmosphere

- * lively
- * energetic
- * noisy / louder than usual
- * crowded / packed
- * tense / exciting / electric atmosphere
- * enthusiastic fans

Describing the place

- * sports bar / pub
- * big screens / TV screens
- * neon signs
- * wooden tables and booths
- * bar counter in the background

Describing people

- * casually dressed
- * wearing sports jerseys / T-shirts
- * smiling / focused / thrilled
- * mixed ages
- * friends / groups

Task 2. Sample (Rosalía launching her brand new album, *Lux*)

Work in pairs and answer the questions:



- Where are these people?
- What event do you think they are attending?
- What are the people in the foreground doing?
- How old do you think the people in the crowd are?
- What are they wearing, and what does it tell you about the season or weather?
- How do you think they are feeling, and why?
- What can you see in the background of the picture?
- Why do you think so many people are holding up their phones?
- How would you describe the atmosphere in the square compared to a normal evening in the city?
- Would you enjoy being in this crowd during such an event? Why or why not?

Sample description:

In this picture, a large crowd is gathered in front of the Cines Callao theatre in Madrid, where an album launch event is taking place.

In the foreground, there are hundreds of people holding up their phones, many of whom seem even more excited than you would expect at a typical movie premiere, since everyone is trying to capture the memorable event.

In the middle, just above the crowd, there is the theatre's façade with its iconic red sign. The entrance looks brighter and busier than the rest of the building, partly because of the artificial lights and partly because so many people are standing close together.

In the background, a huge digital screen shows the album cover, which features a portrait of a woman dressed in white. The minimalistic design of the image stands out clearly against the darker tones of the building, creating a strong visual impact.

At the top of the picture, the upper part of the theatre and a few streetlights can be seen framing the commercial billboard. **On the left**, there is an older building with balconies, while **on the right** I can spot a taller, more modern structure, which helps emphasise how this square mixes traditional and contemporary architecture.

Judging by the atmosphere, I would say that the people in the crowd are feeling thrilled and enthusiastic, as though they were witnessing a long-awaited cultural moment.

Task 3. The verbs in this description are in either present simple / passive voice or present continuous forms. Why? What's their role?

⇒ to capture what's happening in the image

⇒ to describe the elements in the picture

Present Simple / Passive Voice:

Present Continuous:

Task 4. Find 2 examples of:

a) Subordinates

b) Comparatives

c) Passive voice

d) Adjectives describing the place

e) Adjectives describing people's emotions / mood