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| **Lesson Title:** Descriptive Composition | | **Theme:** Writing | |
| **Practice Activity:** PHL-09-105 | | **Class:** JSS 3 | |
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| **Learning Outcomes**  By the end of the lesson, you will be able to:   1. Identify the difference between describing a person and describing a place. 2. Write a descriptive composition about a place. | | | |

**Overview**

**Descriptive writing** asks you to describe something. You want to provide enough interesting information that your reader is able to imagine the place. A reader can only do this if you provide an interesting description using different adjectives.

When you describe a place, start by introducing the place and where it is located. Then go into more detail about the place you are describing. Remember that good descriptive writing engages the five senses – sight, sound, touch, taste and smell. In conclusion explain how you feel about the place. Do you like it or dislike it? Why? Do not forget to write an outline and plan your ideas before you start writing!

The text below is an example descriptive composition about a place:

Lakka

Lakka is a coastal town and it is located west of Freetown. It is situated on the Atlantic Ocean and is part of the Western Area Rural District. Some people call Lakka a beach village.

The main industry in Lakka is tourism and fishing. When you walk down the beach, you can see many tourists in bright swimsuits from Europe. Fishermen bring fish in from the ocean. The smell of fresh fish is in the air, and the birds circle the boats looking to steal fish from the fishermen. There is a cool ocean breeze blowing, and the palm trees sway in the breeze. You can hear the waves crashing against the beach.

I like Lakka because it is beautiful and peaceful. The sound of the ocean and the soft breeze help me relax. Lakka has the most splendid sunsets I have ever seen.

**Practice**

**Activity 1**

Use the outline below to help you plan a descriptive composition about a historic site.

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| Title  Introduction: Introduce the place – where is it located? Why is it a historic site?  Body paragraph: Describe the place. Use as many of the five senses as you can.  Conclusion: Explain why you like the place and conclude your composition. |

**Activity 2**

Use the outline you completed in Activity 1 to help you write your descriptive composition about a historic site. Remember to organise your writing into a clear introduction, body and conclusion.

After you have finished writing, check your composition to make sure that you included the following:

* an introduction that introduces the historic site
* a body that describes the place
* a conclusion that sums up what you have written and why you like the place
* well-organised paragraphs
* interesting descriptive words, adjectives and adverbs
* no spelling or grammar errors

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**Activity 1**

Example outline:

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| Bunce Island: A Historic Site  Introduction: Bunce Island is in the northwest near Pepel. It was a part of the slave trade.  Body paragraph: still have structures that remind us of slavery, narrow and dark caves with wet walls, atmosphere is dreadful, quiet and fearful, shrill voices of birds and insects  Conclusion: It is a sad place. It helps me understand history. |

**Activity 2**

Example descriptive composition:

Bunce Island: A Historic Site

The name of the historic site is Bunce Island. It is situated on the northwestern part of the country close to Pepel. This island can be accessed by land and sea, and it is an important part of our history because of the slave trade.

Bunce Island still has structures that remind us about slavery. There are huge chains, human skeletons, iron bars, doors and windows. You can also see caves that are very narrow and very dark. If you touch the wall, they are wet.

This was the place where slaves were kept in chains before they were taken to America and Europe. The atmosphere of this place is always fearful, dreadful and quiet. When someone is around the area, they will hear shrill voices of birds and insects.

Bunce Island is a sad place. If you close your eyes, you can imagine how the slaves felt. But I like this place because it reminds me of how our ancestors were treated and how they were taken all over the world as slaves. This makes me better understand the world today.