

3. Descriptive essay

A descriptive essay describes an object, a topic, a place, a building, a person or an event in such a way that the reader can actually visualize the things being described. In other words, a descriptive essay describes in detail whatever it is talking about.

TIPS

- ❖ Be creative when choosing your topic.
- ❖ The essay should be brief. It should consist of the introduction that mentions the topic of the essay (what or who you want to describe), the main body that describes in detail whatever it is talking about, and the conclusion, which summarizes the entire essay.
- ❖ Use detailed observations and descriptions. Think about the reason why you chose the topic, why you want to describe it.
- ❖ Use a good variety of adverbs and adjectives to create an imagery in the reader's mind. The reader should imagine what the story is about in as much detail as possible. Lay stress on the descriptive details of a situation, activity or a personality.

SAMPLE

My visit to Goa

It was my first visit with my parents to Goa, the land of beaches. The air hostess had just announced that the flight would soon be landing at the Dabolim Airport.

As the plane was descending I could feel my heart thumping with excitement. Despite the discomfort in the aeroplane due to the chill of the AC, I was at once comforted by the sight of twinkling lights of Goa. As I had anticipated, the cool February Goa air welcomed us when we stepped out of the plane.

We took a taxi to the hotel and quickly freshened up. Soon we were out for a walk on the beach near the hotel. By then, the moon was shining in its full glory. I sat down at a distance from the shore and closed my eyes.

The sea waves lapping at my feet were roaring one moment and softening the next. The experience was extremely soothing.

The next morning we hired a car and went to explore some of the beaches. It was a bright day, not too warm. The bright blue of the Arabian Sea hit my eyes as the first beach came into sight. The glistening sand, the golden sun in the sky, and all the blue trapped between the two – it was a spectacular sight. We lazed on the beaches all afternoon, reading a book, eating snacks or going for a swim.

By evening we had enjoyed the sight and breeze of four beaches. Yet I was not tired. We returned to the hotel and again went out to have dinner in a shack overlooking the sea. The food in the dim lights and under the silver sky seemed all the more delicious.

The trip was a great experience. It was a pleasant change from the otherwise hectic daily routine of home.