

Writing about pictures

Please focus on the assignment you are given. It might not be necessary to go through all four steps. It is also possible that you have to connect the picture with a text.

Introduction:

What type of image is it? colour-photo, black-and-white photo, painting, drawing, movie still, cartoon

Who made it? When? photographer, artist, the photo was taken by ... , the picture was drawn by ...

What does it (roughly) show? When and where was it published? was published in ... [paper] on ... [date]

Description:

Describe it systematically (e.g. from foreground to background or from left to right).

in the middle/centre, at the top, at the bottom, on the left, on the right

there is ...

in the top right-hand corner, in the bottom left-hand corner

you can see ...

in the background, in the foreground

... is shown

Don't forget to describe details (e.g. the characters' appearance and body language / colours, light etc.).

Use the present progressive to describe what people are doing in the picture.

Analysis:

What is the message / the intended effect?

The picture sends a(n) (indirect) message.

The picture captures a key moment.

The picture conveys the impression that ...

The artist aims to present ... / to show ... / to criticise ... / to ridicule ...

What elements are used to get the message across / to produce the effect?

An element of the picture has the effect that ... / contributes to ... / supports ...

The artist creates an atmosphere of ... by ...

Evaluation:

What effect does the image have on you? Do you think it is effective? Why (not)?

The picture appeals / does not appeal to me.

I believe the picture is impressive/ convincing /shocking / funny / ... because ...

In my opinion, the picture is (not) effective / convincing because ...

Sources:

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Prüfungsaufgaben.
Englisch 2007. GK
Nordrhein-Westfalen.
Klett 2006.

Sicher ins
Zentralabitur.
Arbeitsheft mit CD-
ROM. Nordrhein-
Westfalen. Klett 2006.