



# Pearson Edexcel GCSE – Picture Description

## Teacher Guide: ‘Speaking Mats’ for student support

- For each language there are the following speaking mats: one in the target language, a translated version, and one with top tips in English.
- You may choose to keep the translated version for students who need extra support or use it as a solution sheet after setting students the task of translating the target language speaking mat into English.
- These slides support focused practice and revision throughout the course but are not an exhaustive vocabulary and grammar list for the picture description.
- All vocabulary and grammar used are taken from the specification lists; Higher Tier-only vocabulary is clearly marked.
- You may teach extra productive vocabulary outside the specification list, but this is optional. Students who use additional vocabulary will get equal but not extra credit.
- For further training and marking guidance, see: [Professional Development Academy | Online CPD courses | Pearson UK](#) for ‘Conducting the Speaking’ and ‘Unpacking the Speaking’ courses.

Our language-specific GCSE 2024 Qualification pages for exemplars with examiner commentaries.

# Pearson Edexcel GCSE French – Picture Description

## P

### People



#### • Il y a....

un garçon / une fille / un homme / une femme / un (une) enfant / un grand-père / une grand-mère / un professeur / une professeure

(deux) garçons / filles / hommes / femmes / enfants

des / (trois) personnes / élèves / étudiants / jeunes / adultes

#### • C'est... une famille / un groupe de touristes

#### • L'homme / la femme / il / elle / ils / elles...

#### est.../ sont...

grand/e(s) / petit/e(s) / jeune(s) / âgé/e(s)

#### • Il / Elle a...                      Ils ont / Elles ont...

les yeux...verts / bleus / marron

les cheveux blonds / noirs / châains / roux / gris / courts longs

#### • Il / Elle porte...                      Ils / Elles portent...

un pantalon (gris) / un chapeau (bleu / blanc)

une robe / jupe / veste / chemise (bleue / blanche)

des lunettes / chaussures / chaussettes / baskets (noires)

### Mood

Il / elle est... / \*semble...                      Ils / elles sont... / \*semblent...

triste(s)    content/e(s)



### To start

Sur la photo...

Il y a...

Je vois...

Je peux voir...

## A

### Activity



#### • Il / Elle / L'homme au centre...

mange / parle / joue / écoute / marche / achète / travaille  
regarde / étudie / danse / fête / se repose / envoie / rit /  
écrit / boit / court / \*sourit / \*se dispute

#### • Ils / Elles / Les jeunes...

mangent / parlent / jouent / écoutent / marchent /  
achètent / travaillent / regardent / étudient / dansent /  
fêtent / se reposent / envoient / \*rient / \*écrivent /  
\*sourient / \*se disputent

#### • Il / Elle est...                      Ils / Elles sont...

en train de...manger / boire / courir etc.

en train d'écouter / acheter etc.

### Linking

aussi / mais / et / ou /

parce que / car / donc /

par contre / \*cependant /  
\*quoique

je crois que / je pense que...

à mon avis...

\*j'imagine que...

**See 'Top Tips' for how to  
use opinion expressions**

## L

### Location



#### • Il / Elle est dans...                      Ils / Elles sont dans...

une école / une ville / une bibliothèque / la rue

un collège / restaurant / hôtel / jardin / magasin

centre commercial / centre sportif / musée / bureau

#### • Il / Elle est...                      Ils / Elles sont...

à la maison / gare / montagne / campagne / plage /  
à l'université

en vacances / chez des amis / dehors / sur la place

au parc / cinéma

#### • Il y a...des bâtiments / arbres / voitures / maisons

#### • Il y a beaucoup de maisons / d'arbres

#### • On peut voir...

un château / une rivière / une forêt / le ciel / la mer /  
des photos sur le mur

#### Adjectives:

grand / petit / propre / confortable / agréable

nouveau / moderne / historique / vieux

### Where?

au premier plan /

à l'arrière plan

au centre / ici

à droite / à gauche

devant / à côté de

### Weather

il fait beau / il fait froid / il  
y a du soleil

il pleut / il neige

c'est... l'hiver / le  
printemps / l'été /  
l'automne

# Pearson Edexcel GCSE French – Picture Description (translation)

## P

### People



- **There is / There are....**

a boy / girl / man / woman /

child / grandfather / grandmother /

teacher (male / female)

(two) boys / girls / men / women / children

some / (three) people / pupils / students / young people  
adults

- **It is...** a family / a group of tourists

- The man / the woman / he / she / they

**is.../ are...**

tall / short / young / old

- **He / She has...**

**They have...**

green / blue / brown....eyes

blond / black / brown / red / grey / short / long...hair

- **He / She is wearing...**

**They are wearing...**

(grey) trousers / a (blue / white) hat

a dress / skirt / jacket, blazer / (blue / white) shirt

glasses / shoes / socks / (black) trainers



### To start

In the photo...

There is / there are...

I see...

I can see...

## A

### Activity



- **He / She / The man in the centre is...**

eating / talking / playing / listening / walking / buying /  
working / watching / studying / dancing / celebrating /  
resting, chilling / sending / laughing / writing / drinking /  
running / \*smiling / \*arguing

- **He / She / The young people are...**

eating / talking / playing / listening / walking / buying /  
working / watching / studying / dancing / celebrating /  
resting, chilling / sending / \*laughing / \*writing / \*smiling /  
\*arguing

- **He / she is...**

**They are...**

eating, drinking, running, listening, buying etc.

### Linking

also / but / and / or /

because / so, therefore /

however/ \* however variant  
\*although

I believe / I think that...

In my opinion...

\*I imagine that...

**See 'Top Tips' for how to  
use opinion expressions**

## L

### Location



- **He / She is...**

**They are...**

at...a town / a library / in a street

at a...school / restaurant / hotel / garden / shop /  
shopping centre / sports centre / museum / an office

- **He / She is...**

**They are...**

at home/ at a station / in the mountains / in the  
countryside / at the beach / at university

on holiday / at a friend's house / outside / in the  
square / at the park / at the cinema

- **There are...**buildings / trees / cars / houses

- **There are...**lots of houses / trees

- **You can see...**

a castle/ a river/ a forest / the sky / the sea / some  
photos on the wall

**Adjectives:**

big / small / clean / comfortable / nice /

new / modern / historic / old

### Mood

He / she is... / \*seems...

They are... / \*seem...

sad

happy

### Where?

in the foreground /

in the background

in the centre / here

on the right / on the left

in front of / next to

### Weather

it's good / cold weather

it's sunny

it's raining /snowing

it's... winter / spring /  
summer / autumn

# Pearson Edexcel GCSE – Picture Description – Top Tips

## Thematic Contexts

My Personal World      Lifestyle and Wellbeing  
My neighbourhood      Media and technology  
Studying and my future      Travel and tourism

During your revision time, think about what sort of picture could link to your chosen thematic context



## Describing the picture

Give as much detail as possible – this task is worth 8 marks  
It's better to say what you know than what you'd ideally say. Aim to be as accurate as you can  
Use the vocabulary you feel confident about and vary your language but take some risks and have a go too!

## P People



### Relationships

Say who they are (a man, two women)  
Family members (son, mother, grandparent)  
How they might be connected (siblings, friends)

### Physical Appearance

Hair: colour, length  
More details: height, eye colour

### Clothing

Type of clothes (t-shirt, jumper, dress, uniform)

**Colours** (remember word order and agreement)

**Mood** (happy, sad, tired)

### Variety

Describe more than one person for varied vocabulary

### Opinions

**DO** mention your opinion on their mood or relationship: "I think they are happy because they are smiling" or "I think they are friends"

**DON'T** give personal opinions: "I love her T-shirt"

## Preparation

Before your exam you will choose your thematic context from a choice of two  
You will have 14 minutes in the invigilation room, plus 1 minute in the exam room. You need to choose Picture 1 or Picture 2  
Make notes on A4 paper about the ONE picture you have chosen. You can refer to these during the exam

## A Activity



### Use verbs in the correct form

'He/she is...' or 'they are...'

playing football	watching TV
shopping	smiling / laughing
eating breakfast	dancing

Use the present tense (or the \*present continuous tense)

### Vocabulary

Mention objects or features in the photo that relate to the activity. For example: "There is a swimming pool"

## L Location



### Use vocabulary for places

Forest, trees, campsite, beach, classroom, shopping centre, etc.

Mention any other objects or features you can see – think of any nouns you can add in.

### Describe the weather

Mention weather conditions if visible in the picture (hot, cold, snowy).

### Use adjectives

Big, small, modern, old etc.

### Opinions

**DO** mention the weather or season if obvious:

"I think it's summer because they are wearing t-shirts and it is sunny"

**DON'T** give personal opinions:

"I don't like shopping centres"