



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 German – Picture Description

P

People



• Es gibt...

einen Jungen / zwei Jungen

ein Mädchen / drei Mädchen

einen Mann / eine Frau / ein Kind / vier Kinder

einen Vater / eine Mutter / zwei Geschwister

einen Großvater / eine Großmutter / zwei Großeltern

eine Gruppe von Touristen / Schülern / Studenten

einen Lehrer / eine Lehrerin

ein Paar / eine Familie

(vier) Personen / Erwachsene

viele Leute / Touristen

• Er / Sie / Der Mann / Die Frau hat... Sie haben...

blaue / braune / grüne Augen lange / kurze Haare

• Er / Sie ist... Sie sind... groß / klein / jung / alt

• Er / Sie trägt... Sie tragen...

einen Hut / eine Brille / eine (schwarze) Hose / eine Jacke

eine Krawatte / Jeans / (braune) Schuhe

ein (blaues / weißes) T-shirt / Hemd / Kleid

More details

Sie sehen...(glücklich / traurig / müde) aus

Er / sie sieht...(sportlich / fleißig / lustig / nett) aus



To start

Auf dem Foto gibt es /
sieht man...

Ich sehe...

Es gibt...

A

Activity



• Er / Sie / Der Junge / Das Mädchen...

isst / trinkt / spielt / redet / hört / geht / sitzt / fährt /
kauft / lacht / lächelt / arbeitet / schreibt / lernt /
studiert / liest / läuft / tanzt / feiert / kocht / schickt

• Sie / Die zwei Kinder / Die Großeltern...

essen / trinken / spielen / reden / hören / gehen / sitzen
fahren / kaufen / lachen / lächeln / arbeiten / schreiben
lernen / studieren / lesen / laufen / tanzen / feiern /
kochen / schicken

• Sie gehen im Wald spazieren

• Sie *sehen im Wohnzimmer fern

Linking

auch / aber / und / weil

also / deshalb / deswegen

*jedoch / *trotzdem

Ich glaube / denke...

Es scheint mir...

Ich würde sagen ...

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

L

Location



• Er / Sie ist...

Sie sind...

in der Schule / Stadt / Straße

in einem Büro / Park / Zimmer / Garten / Geschäft /
Kino / Einkaufszentrum / Restaurant / Sportzentrum

auf dem Land / auf einem Campingplatz / Platz

auf Urlaub / auf einem Fest / auf einem Konzert

zu Hause / draußen

am Meer / am Strand / am Bahnhof

In den Bergen / in der Natur / im Wald

an der Küste / an der Universität

• **Es gibt...** ein Schloss / einen Fluss / ein Museum

• **Es gibt** (viele)Bäume / Häuser / Gebäude /
Geschäfte / Autos / Fotos an der Wand

Adjectives:

groß / klein

neu / modern / alt / historisch

rein / schmutzig

bequem / schön

Where?

im Vordergrund

im Hintergrund

auf der rechten / linken
Seite / in der Mitte

in der Nähe (von)

Weather

es ist kalt / heiß / neblig
es regnet / es schneit

das Wetter ist schön /
schlecht

es ist Winter / Frühling /
Sommer / Herbst

Pearson Edexcel GCSE German – Picture Description (translation)

P

People



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

a boy / two boys

a girl / three girls

a man / a woman / a child / four children

a father / a mother / two siblings

a grandfather / a grandmother / two grandparents

a group of tourists / pupils / students

a teacher (male / female)

a couple / a family

(four) people / adults

lots of people / tourists

- **He / She / The man / The woman has... They have...**

blue / brown / green...eyes long / short...hair

- **He / She is... They are...** tall / short / young / old

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

a hat / glasses / (black) trousers / a jacket, blazer / a tie
jeans / (brown) shoes

a (blue / white) T-shirt / shirt / dress



To start

In the photo there is /
there are / you can see...

I see...

There is / There are...

A

Activity



- **He / She / The boy / The girl is...**

eating / drinking / playing / speaking / listening / going
sitting / travelling / buying / laughing / smiling / working
writing / learning / studying / reading / running /
dancing / celebrating / cooking / sending

- **They / The two children / The grandparents are...**

eating / drinking / playing / speaking / listening / going
sitting / travelling / buying / laughing / smiling / working
writing / learning / studying / reading / running /
dancing / celebrating / cooking / sending

- They are going for a walk in the forest

- They are *watching TV in the living room

Linking

also / but / and / because

so / therefore / because of
that

*however / *nevertheless

I believe / I think...

It seems to me...

I would say...

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

L

Location



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

- **They are...**

at school / in town / in the street

in an office / a park / room / garden / shop / cinema /

shopping centre / restaurant / sports centre

in the countryside / at a campsite / in a square

on holiday / at a party / at a concert

at home / outside

by the sea / at the beach / at the station

in the mountains / in nature / in the forest

at the coast / at university

- **There is...** a castle / a river / a museum

- **There are** (lots of)trees / houses / buildings /
shops / cars / photos on the wall

Adjectives:

big / small new / modern / old / historic

clean / dirty comfortable / pretty

Where?

in the foreground

in the background

on the right / left hand
side / in the middle

near...

Weather

it is cold / hot / foggy

it is raining / snowing

the weather is nice / bad

it is winter / spring /
summer / autumn

More details

They look...happy / sad /tired

He / she looks...sporty / hard working / funny / nice

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"