

## Writing task



## A description of a place

Your school magazine has asked for articles describing a place that is important to you and why it is special. Write a short article for the magazine. The best piece of descriptive writing will be featured in next month's issue.

## Understand the task

## 1 Read the writing task and answer the questions.

- 1 Who will read your article and where?
- 2 What kind of description is it: emotional, factual, or both?
- 3 What do you think makes a place special? Is it the location, the people, or events that happened there?

## Think and plan

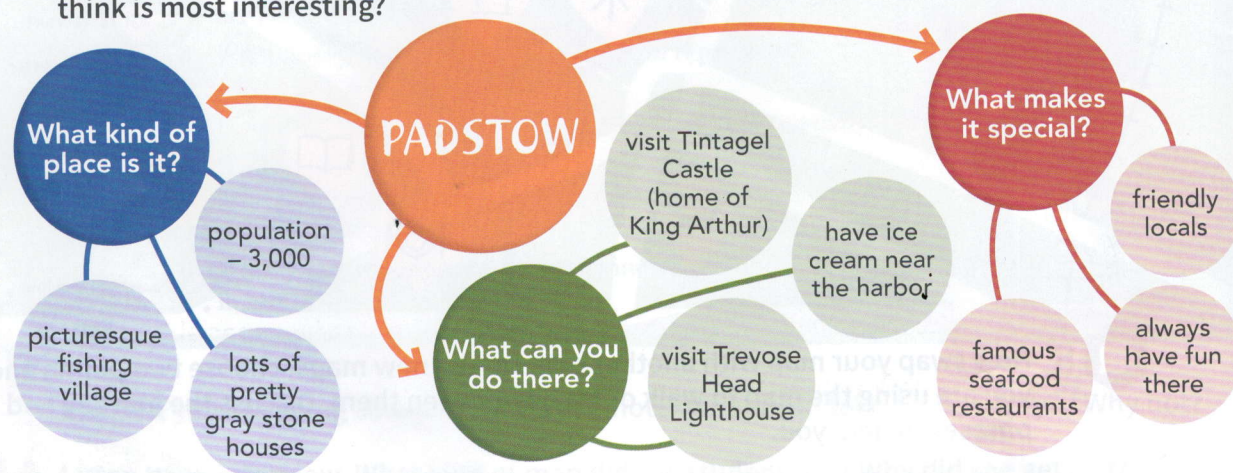
## Writing strategy



## Developing your ideas

Before you start writing, develop your ideas. Use a mind map to generate ideas. Ask yourself questions about the place. Then select the most relevant and most interesting ideas.

## 2 Study the writing strategy. Look at the mind map. What information about Padstow do you think is most interesting?



## 3 Now read Martyn's description. Which ideas were included from the mind map?

## A Special Place

by Martyn McGregor

My favorite place is Padstow, a **picturesque small** town on the coast of Cornwall, in southwest England.

Padstow is famous for its harbor, where there are rows of **gray stone** houses, and pretty blue and white fishing boats. The town is near **long sandy** beaches such as Treyarnon Bay, where you can surf. It's also near places of interest such as Trevose Head Lighthouse, and the **magnificent ancient** Tintagel Castle where King Arthur lived.

There is always plenty to do in Padstow, but when we are there, we usually eat at the same cafes and do the same boat trips and walks. I still notice different things about them every time I visit. This and the **friendly local** people always make me feel relaxed and at home.

That said, Padstow has changed over the years. It's gotten bigger and more popular. More tourists visit its famous **seafood** restaurants and crowd into the **bustling old** streets. Local people have moved out, too, because it's an expensive place to live. But despite these changes, I still love Padstow. It reminds me of my summer vacations with my family and friends, so it will always be a special place to me.

#### 4 Choose a place you want to write about. Follow the instructions.

- 1 Think of three questions about the place that you can answer in your description.
- 2 Generate ideas to answer the questions and select the best ideas.
- 3 Think of adjectives to describe your special place and the things you can see and do there.

#### Write a first draft

#### 5 LANGUAGE POINT Look at the highlighted adjectives in the description on page 22. Match them with the adjective categories below. Then complete the rule for adjective order.

opinion material age



#### 6 Write a first draft of your description. Use your ideas from exercise 4.

#### Review and edit

#### 7 Read through your first draft. Check it and revise it. Then write your final draft.

- **Content** Did you select your best and most interesting ideas?
- **Organization** Did you organize your ideas into clear paragraphs?
- **Style** Did you use a variety of adjectives in your description in the correct order?

### Reflect

## What do places mean to us?



How do places get their names?



How do we read maps?



Why do places disappear?



What makes a place special?



What do we notice about places?

#### 1 Think about your answers to the lesson questions. Make notes.



#### 2 Watch the Reflect video *without* narration. Can you guess what information the narrator gives?

#### 3 Work together and compare your ideas.



#### 4 Watch the same video *with* narration. Make notes. Did you learn anything new?

#### 5 Discuss the lesson questions in pairs.

#### 6 Now go to the Reflect box in the Workbook and write your answers to the questions.

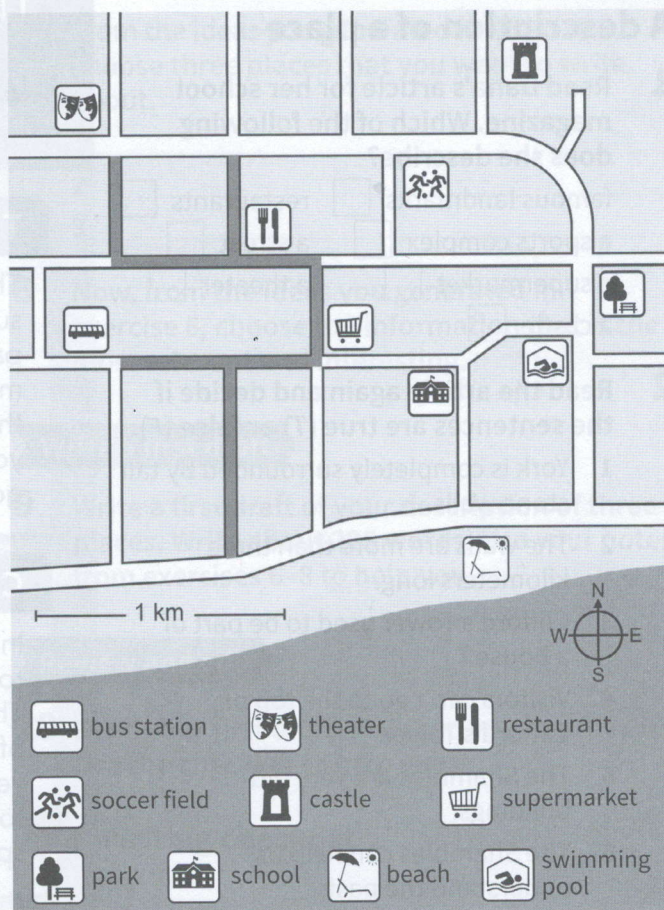
Workbook ► Page 23



*I learned that the town of Craco in Italy was abandoned because of earthquakes.*

## Listening

- 1 Look at the map. The gray streets are a car-free zone. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this sort of area in a city?
- 2 **2.01** Study the listening strategy. Then listen to a host mother talking about the map with an exchange student. Complete the chart with the advantages and disadvantages of the car-free zone that they mention.



### Listening strategy

#### Identifying advantages and disadvantages

When people have a discussion, they usually give advantages and disadvantages. When you listen to a discussion, note down the advantages and disadvantages that you hear. This will help you follow the discussion.

| Advantages    |
|---------------|
|               |
|               |
|               |
| Disadvantages |
|               |
|               |
|               |

- 3 **2.01** Listen again and check your answers. Do you think the advantages outweigh the disadvantages? Why? / Why not?

## Speaking

- 4 Choose the correct words.
- According of / to / by the scale
  - check / look / watch the key
  - go for / at / in this direction
  - go east along / for / with this road
  - look out to / for / at the supermarket
  - what for / is / does this symbol mean
  - take / do / have a shortcut

- 5 Complete the dialogue with phrases a–g from exercise 4.

- Kim Look, there's a castle on the north side of town. That's where I want to go.
- Rob Oh, OK. But you can't go straight north from the bus station, so first, you have to <sup>1</sup>.....
- Kim OK, that's to the right on the map. But <sup>2</sup>..... – the tree?
- Rob Let's <sup>3</sup>..... Oh, it means a park.
- Kim That way looks very long. We can <sup>4</sup>..... and save time.
- Rob Oh, I think you're right, <sup>5</sup>....., it's about two kilometers to the park.
- Kim Right. So we should <sup>6</sup>..... and turn left there.
- Rob OK. And if we <sup>7</sup>....., we'll pass a soccer field. Then we turn right and we'll see the castle.

- 6 Write a dialogue. Choose one of the situations or use your own idea. Use the map in exercise 1 and phrases from exercise 4.

You're at the bus station.

- You and a friend are trying to figure out the best way to get to the theater, to see a play.
- You and a friend want to get to the beach. Talk about the best way to go.
- You and a friend are planning to visit the park. You also want to go to the restaurant.

## A description of a place

- 1 Read Dana's article for her school magazine. Which of the following does she describe?

famous landmarks ☐ restaurants ☐  
 a sports complex ☐ a street ☐  
 a supermarket ☐ a theater ☐  
 a castle ☐

- 2 Read the article again and decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

- York is completely surrounded by tall stone walls. ....
- The walls are more than three kilometers long. ....
- Clifford's Tower used to be part of a house. ....
- Visitors can't go to the top of Clifford's Tower. ....
- The Shambles are very old buildings. ....
- The Shambles can help us understand the past. ....

## LANGUAGE POINT Adjective order

- 3 Choose two adjectives to complete each blank (1-6) in the article. Write them in the correct order.

- tiny old beautiful
- stone ancient plastic
- French large grassy
- amazing intelligent 13th-century
- delicious narrow long
- old tall paper

- 4 Do the adjectives go before or after the word in bold (a-e) in the article? Write both adjectives in the correct order.

a impressive

b incredible

c huge

d brick-and-wood

e old

## Three things to see in YORK

There are three things that every visitor should see.

## THE CITY WALLS

The center of the city used to be completely surrounded by <sup>1</sup> ..... walls. Today, some parts of the <sup>a</sup>**ancient** walls are no longer there, but more than 3.4 kilometers are still standing. They are the longest <sup>2</sup> ..... walls in England, and you can walk on top of them. As you walk, you get good, changing views of the <sup>b</sup>**medieval** city center.

## CLIFFORD'S TOWER

In the center of the city, a <sup>c</sup>**stone** tower stands on top of a <sup>3</sup> ..... hill. This is Clifford's Tower. This <sup>4</sup> ..... tower is all that remains of York Castle, which was originally built over 1,000 years ago. If you go up the narrow, steep steps of the tower, you will be able to see the entire City of York, spreading out in the valley all around you.

## THE SHAMBLES

One of York's most famous streets is called The Shambles. This <sup>5</sup> ..... street has <sup>d</sup>**ancient** buildings along both sides. Some of the <sup>6</sup> ..... buildings lean over the <sup>e</sup>**bustling** street below, so at the top, they almost touch the building opposite. Walking on The Shambles gives you an idea of what cities were like hundreds of years ago. It's a magical street, and my favorite place in the city.

