

Talking illustrations: Pictures, photos and cartoons

1. Take a long hard look at this illustration.
2. During the following, imagine describing what you see to someone who cannot see the picture.
3. In writing, use at least four paragraphs:
 - a. If possible, name the title of the illustration, the artist and the date of its publication.
Briefly give an idea of what the illustration looks like (INTRODUCTION).
 - b. Say what you see. (DESCRIPTION)
 - c. Explain what it means (INTERPRETATION).
 - d. Lastly, sum up briefly (CONCLUSION).

Note: When you describe an action in a picture or cartoon, always use the **present progressive**.

Talk the (imaginary) listener through the illustration, using these phrases (and prepositions):

- **in** the cartoon / **in** the picture / **in** the photo /
on the right side / **on** the left side / further to the right / further to the left /
left of / right of / **at** the top / **at** the bottom / **in** the middle /
in the background / in the **middle distance** / **in** the foreground /
behind / above / below / in front of / next to / between / under /
- **Describe actions**
someone **is walking** towards...she/he **is wearing** / **holding** / **talking**... /
she **is waving** a flag... he is **eating** an apple... he/she is **holding** hands with...
- The **caption** says.../ The inscription on the sign **says** / **reads**: "... " /
The posters that the demonstrators are waving **say**: "... "

Navigating within the illustration

in the top corner on the left	at the top	in the top corner on the right
to the left of the centre	↖ ↑ ↗	to the right of the centre
on the left-hand side	←	on the right-hand side
(further) to the left	↙	(further) to the right
on the left	↘ ↓ ↘	on the right
in the bottom cor- ner on the left	(right) at the bottom	in the bottom corner on the right