

Activity Type

Vocabulary Exercises: matching, categorising, identifying, gap-fill, writing descriptions

Speaking Activity: describing, guessing (pair work)

Focus

Describing objects

Aim

To learn how to describe objects using adjectives, the materials they're made of, and their use.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two-page worksheet for each student.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

This describing objects worksheet helps students learn how to describe things using adjectives, the materials they're made of, and their use.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

The students begin by matching sentence halves together to make sentences that describe objects.

Exercise A- Answer key

- | | | |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. g | 5. i | 9. j |
| 2. e | 6. k | 10. f |
| 3. l | 7. b | 11. a |
| 4. h | 8. c | 12. d |

Next, the students put the words in bold from Exercise A into their correct category: adjective, material, or use.

Exercise B - Answer key

Adjective	Material	Use
noisy	wool	wash clothes
entertaining	metal	cutting things
fast	bricks	climbing
round	leather	boil water

After that, the students read about describing objects and underline words that show the correct grammar rules.

Exercise C - Answer key

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. adjective | 3. gerund |
| 2. material | 4. infinitive |

The students then move on to complete sentences that describe objects with the words shown.

Exercise D - Answer key

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A pencil, wood | 5. An envelope, paper |
| 2. sharp, sewing | 6. A scarf, wool |
| 3. soft, sleeping | 7. round, throwing |
| 4. Glasses, fragile | 8. useful, eating |

(continued on the next page)

Note: This resource can be edited using a PDF editor.

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Procedure continued

Next, the students write three sentences of their own to describe six objects using the words provided.

Exercise E - Answer key

1. a wallet.

It is useful.

It is made of leather.

It is used to keep money in.

2. ice

It is cold.

It is made of water.

It is used for keeping drinks cool.

3. tape

It is sticky

It is made of glue and backing.

It is used for wrapping.

4. a window

It is transparent.

It is made of glass.

It is used for looking through.

5. matches

They are dangerous.

They are made of wood.

They are used to light fires.

6. an eraser

It is small.

It is made of rubber.

It is used to correct mistakes.

In the last exercise, the students think of two objects and describe them in three sentences to a partner, without saying what the objects are. Their partner then tries to guess what they are describing.

A. Match the sentence halves together to make sentences that describe objects.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. A Ferrari is | a. is noisy . |
| 2. Forks are | b. to wash clothes quickly. |
| 3. A kettle is used | c. is entertaining . |
| 4. Houses are usually | d. made of wool . |
| 5. A ring | e. made of metal . |
| 6. A belt is | f. for climbing . |
| 7. A washing machine is used | g. very fast . |
| 8. A television | h. made of bricks . |
| 9. Scissors are used | i. is round . |
| 10. A rope is used | j. for cutting things . |
| 11. A hairdryer | k. made of leather . |
| 12. A sweater is | l. to boil water . |



B. Put the words in bold from Exercise A into their correct category.

Adjective	Material	Use

C. You can describe objects in many ways. You can describe them by using adjectives, by the material they are made of, and what they are used for. Read the sentences and underline the words that show the correct grammar rules.

- When we describe an object, we say it **is** + *adjective / material / gerund* (verb+ing).
- When we describe an object, we say it **is made of** + *adjective / material / gerund*.
- When we describe an object's use, we can say it **is used for** + *infinitive / gerund*.
- When we describe an object's use, we can also say it **is used to** + *infinitive / gerund*.

D. Complete the sentences that describe objects using the words or phrases below.

wood fragile sleeping paper wool throwing sewing soft
 a pencil eating sharp glasses round useful a scarf an envelope

Object	Adjective	Material	Use
1.	is useful.	It is made of	It is used for writing.
2. A needle	is	It is made of metal	It is used for
3. A pillow	is	It is made of feathers.	It is used for
4.	are	They are made of glass.	They are used for seeing things.
5.	is light.	It is made of	It is used to put letters in.
6.	is soft.	It is made of	It is used to keep you warm.
7. A frisbee	is	It is made of plastic.	It is used for
8. A spoon	is	It is made of metal.	It is used for

E. Write three sentences describing each object using the words below.

light fires sticky leather transparent small rubber
 cold wrapping dangerous keeping drinks cool water correct mistakes
 useful glue and backing keep money in glass wood looking through

1. a wallet	4. a window
.....
.....
2. ice	5. matches
.....
.....
3. tape	6. an eraser
.....
.....

F. Think of two objects and describe them to a partner in three sentences. Don't say what the objects are. See if your partner can guess the objects you're describing.