

How to describe a picture

1/ Introduce the document

- **Genre :**

The document is a photograph/ a painting/ a cartoon/ a drawing/ a poster/ a comic strip/ an advertisement/ a book cover/ a map/ a caricature/ a graffiti/ a mural ...

- **Title :**

The document is entitled ...

The title is ...

- **Author :**

It was taken by .../ It was made by.../ It was painted by.../ It was drawn by ...

The photographer/ cartoonist/ artist/ advertiser ... is ...

- **Origin : (source + date)**

The document is taken from a magazine ...

The document comes from ...

It is an extract from ...

It was published in ...

It dates from ...

Judging from the characters' clothing / As regards the setting/ the means of transport ..., we can deduce the action takes place in the ... century/ nowadays/ in the fifties/ in the past/ in the future.

- **Topic/ theme :**

The document deals with ...

It represents ...

It is about ...

It shows ...

2/ Describe the document

* Organisation of the document

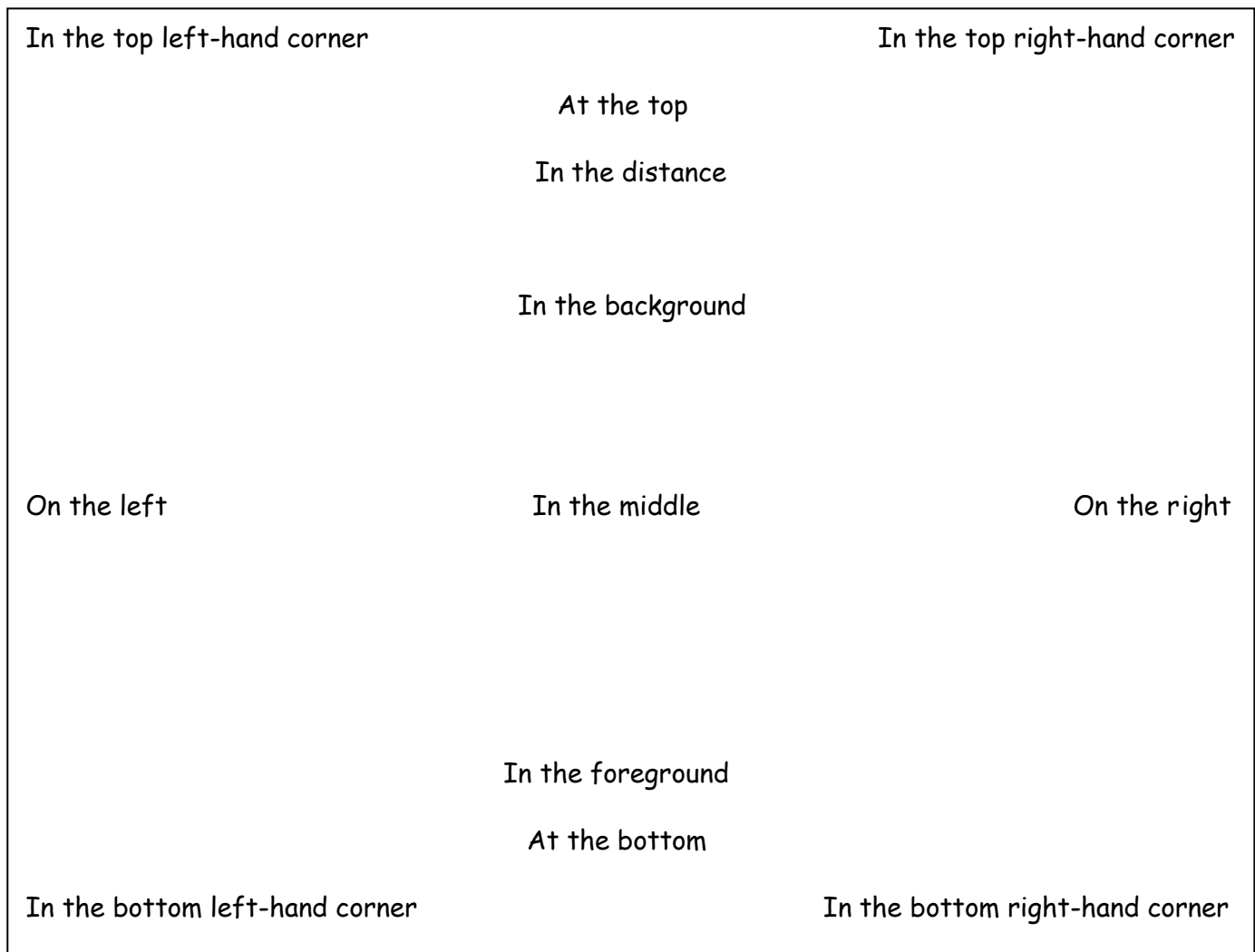
The document consists of/ is composed of/ is made up of ...

It can be divided into ... parts.

There is a caption/ a title/ a text ...

It is a close-up ≠ a long shot ...

- **Locate and describe**



* The most important element is ...

What attracts my attention .../ What catches the eye is ...

* Describe the scene/ the characters / the objects / the setting ...

He/ she seems ... / They look ...

He/ she must be ...

He / she may be ...

* Remember : between/ behind/ in front of / to the right/ to the left/ above/
under ...

3/ Analyse the document

- As there is/ there are... we can deduce that...

We can notice that ...

We can suppose that ...

- The author's intention(s)

His aim / goal / purpose is to .../ He aims at ...

The photographer... wants to show/advertize/ criticize/ denounce/ shock/ make people aware of/ make people laugh/ warn people against something ...

The cartoonist suggests ...

The photographer highlights/ illustrates ...

* Useful expressions :

It symbolizes/ It represents/ It stands for ...

To be left in the shade ≠ to be highlighted

To contrast with .../ whereas/ unlike/ on the contrary ...

We can infer/ deduce/ conclude that ...

4/ Personal opinion

- I think the document is quite + adj...

In my opinion ...

As for me ...

To my mind ...

- Some useful adjectives :

Shocking/ funny/ humorous/ ironic/ original/ scary/ convincing/ exaggerated ...

I find it funny.

It reminds me of...