

LANGUAGE REVIEW

Asking for descriptions

What's London like? means 'Tell me about London because I don't know anything about it'. It is a very general question.

When it is asked about a person, the answer can refer to character or appearance or both.

What's Peter like?

He's quite tall, with short blond hair.

He's really nice. You'd like him.

What does she look like? asks for a physical description.

What does she look like?

She's very pretty. She's got long black hair, and dark, mysterious eyes.

How are your parents? asks about their health and general happiness. It does not ask for a description.

How are your parents?

They're fine, thanks. My mother had a cold, but she's better now.

Verb patterns

We use *-ing* after some verbs.

I don't mind cooking but I hate ironing.

We use the infinitive after some verbs.

We tried to save some money because we needed to buy a new car.

My mother asked me to tidy up, and then told me to go to bed.

Make and *let* are followed by the infinitive without *to*.

She made me go to bed, but she let me read for a while.

VOCABULARY AND PRONUNCIATION

Words that go together

Use your dictionaries to look up any new words.

- 1 Look at the following groups of words. Which **four** of the surrounding words in each group **cannot** go with the noun in the centre?

People

expensive reserved sociable
bored elderly
boring young
tall rich
rude high
antique starving
wealthy crowded
sophisticated

Towns

cosmopolitan polluted modern
historic exciting
capital excited
old busy
young rural
antique seaside
agricultural industrial
overcrowded

Food

delicious disgusting
boiled tasteless
fresh tasteful
rich plain
fast tasty
wealthy frozen
disgusted starving
home-grown vegetarian

- 2 Put a suitable adjective from Exercise 1 into the gaps in the following conversations. If necessary, use their comparative or superlative forms.

Example

Billy's only two so he's the youngest in the family.

- a 'What is Anna's brother like?'
'Well, he is certainly _____, dark and handsome, but I didn't enjoy meeting him at all. He is even _____ than she is!'
- b 'What was your meal like?'
'Ugh! It was awful. The pizza was _____. We were absolutely _____, but we still couldn't eat it!'
- c 'Did you have a good time in Amsterdam?'
'Excellent, thank you. There's so much to do. It's a really _____ city. And there are so many people from all over the world, it's even _____ than London.'
- d 'Mmm! These courgettes are _____. Did you grow them yourselves?'
'Yes, we did. All our vegetables are _____.'