

3.5 Listening

Picture dictations

Focus: *developing listening and comprehension skills.*

1. In this exercise, you are going to practise listening to instructions in order to draw pictures. By comparing your picture with the original, you will see how accurately you have listened! First look at the photograph below.



2. Imagine that you are describing the photograph to someone who cannot see it. Write at least five sentences. The words below may help.

in the foreground

in the background

to the left

on the right

in the middle

digger

mud

edge

mountain side

road

3. Now it's your turn! Work in pairs.

Student A: Take one of your subject textbooks. Select a photograph. Don't show it to your partner. You must describe this photograph in detail so that your partner can draw it. Don't look at what he or she is drawing! Keep describing until your partner has finished. Then show the photograph. Were your instructions clear? How well did Student B understand your instructions?

Student B: Take out a blank sheet of paper. Student A is going to describe a photograph from a text book. Do not look at the photo! Listen carefully to what Student A is saying. Draw as you listen to the instructions. When you have finished, compare your drawing with the original. Were Student A's instructions clear? Were you able to understand them?

4. With your partner, discuss how to improve your instructions and drawing. Then try again! Swap roles this time: Student A becomes Student B.