

5. Descriptive Writing (12. Klasse)

5.1 DESCRIBING CARTOONS: HALLOWEEN

Stichwortliste:

- cartoon about Halloween,
- three children in fancy dress,
- asking their neighbours for sweets (“trick or treat”),
- middle-aged couple and a dog,
- are obese,
- have eaten the sweets themselves,
- MESSAGE: obesity is a major problem in the US.

Stichwortliste hat ca. 50 Wörter, kann also so belassen und ausformuliert werden.

Lösungsvorschlag:

This cartoon is about obesity in the United States.

In the picture, you can see three children in fancy dress. On Halloween, they are going from door to door asking their neighbours for sweets. However, their neighbours, a middle-aged couple, and their dog, are all extremely overweight. Obviously, they could not resist the temptation of eating the sweets themselves so that they haven't got anything left for the children. The message of the cartoon is that obesity is such a huge problem in the US that it affects all aspects of American society, even traditions like Halloween.

(about 100 words)

5.2 DESCRIBING PICTURES: BACK TO SCHOOL AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE

This photograph shows a lesson at a primary school in Pakistan.

In the centre of the picture, a teacher is practising reading with a group of pupils who are standing next to him. In the foreground, a group of girls, who are all wearing headscarves, is sitting on the floor and working with their exercise books. The classroom itself is in a poor condition, with bare walls and no furniture except for a small blackboard.

The picture emphasizes that schools in Pakistan have reopened, despite the earthquake mentioned in the headline.

(91 words)

5.3 DESCRIBING STATISTICS: MIGRATION TO AND FROM THE UK

Stichwortliste:

- two line graphs, describing how many people emigrated from the UK (outflow) or immigrated to the UK (inflow), in thousands
- period of time covered: between 1998 and 2007
- 1998: about 260,000 left the UK while 400,000 came in
- number of immigrants increased until 2004 (approximately 600,000), then it leveled out
- number of emigrants rose until 2006 (to approximately 400,000), then it started falling
- bar chart: net migration (immigration minus emigration): more people immigrated than left the country (1998 – 2003: about 170,000; 2004 – 2007: about 200,000)
- interpretation: UK attracts a large number of immigrants / is a country of immigration

Stichwortliste hat bereits ca. 100 Wörter, eine Zusammenfassung ist also nötig.

Lösungsvorschlag:

The chart shows the number of people in thousands who migrated to and from the UK between the years 1998 and 2007.

According to the line graphs, about 400,000 people migrated to the UK in 1998, while 260,000 left the country. The number of immigrants increased until 2004, to approximately 600,000, then it leveled out. The number of emigrants rose until 2006, to approximately 400,000 people, then it started to decrease.

Consequently, as the bar chart shows, the UK continued to have net migration, i.e. the number of immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants by about 200,000, showing that the UK continued to be an attractive destination for immigrants.

(about 105 words)