Lesson 30: You will be able to Use Spatial Relationships When Writing Supporting Details in Descriptive Essays

Purpose of Lesson 30: You will be able to use spatial relationships when writing supporting details in descriptive essays.

Skills: Critical thinking, reading comprehension, vocabulary and writing.

Words to Learn:

panoramic - a full view that surrounds you:  *We had a panoramic view from the tower.*

perspective - point of view:  *From the perspective of the tower, the city was small.*

prepositional phrase - preposition and its connected words, used to show location: “*inside the tent*” is a prepositional phrase.

preposition - connects to a noun to show location: In the sentence, “*I could live at the beach,*” “at” is an example of a preposition.

spatial relationships - viewing things by their location: “*The house was in the center of the valley*” is an example of spatial relationships.

Directions: Read the conversation below and do the exercises that follow.

1

Okay, Dad. I’m ready for you to take pictures of my room for the makeover contest.

2

Have you decided what angles you would like me to focus on? Have you written that part of your essay?
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3
Yes. Ms. Shine gave me some great ideas to describe how my room looks from different points of view. For example, if you stand by the window, you feel like other three walls are closing in on you.

4
Of course. Think of your writing as if it were photography. For example, you can use a zoom lens to focus on close up things, and a panoramic 360 degree lens to get a feel for the entire area.

5
That’s right. She explained it in a similar way. Just try to look at room from many different perspectives.

6
That’s the exact word I was going to say. We photographers use it all the time.

- Where something is located and how it is viewed can be expressed with prepositions of place.
- Imagine what you are describing as a painting.
- What is in the foreground, in the background?
- Use words like “in front of” or “in back of” to put your image into words.
- What is above, or below? Use words like “above”/“on top of,” or “below”/“underneath,” to create a setting with more detail.
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Here is a list of prepositions that Dora used to describe her room:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preposition</th>
<th>under</th>
<th>next to</th>
<th>on the opposite side of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>above</td>
<td>underneath</td>
<td>next to</td>
<td>on the opposite side of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alongside of</td>
<td>in front of</td>
<td>in the center</td>
<td>outside of</td>
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<tr>
<td>in</td>
<td>parallel to</td>
<td>to the left / right</td>
<td>on</td>
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<td>from</td>
<td>outside of</td>
<td>beyond</td>
<td>close to</td>
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<td>at</td>
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