



Describing a journey

shifting perspective



Describing a journey

Describing a journey allows you to practise shifting perspective.

Perspective is what we can see. During a journey what you can see changes all the time.

If you are describing a train, bus, car, boat or plane journey you can also switch between the scene outside and the scene inside.



Shifting perspectives

Can you see where the perspective moves?

I smiled at the girl with pink hair as she got onto the bus and found her seat. She smiled back, as always. I turned back to the window watching the beads of rain catch the reflection of brake lights on the slick road. As we pulled back onto the main lane I saw a woman running down the opposite side of the road jumping onto a bus going in the other direction just before it closed its doors. The

boy in the seat behind me opened a crinkly packet
of crisps and I felt my own hunger suddenly sharp.



Specific vocabulary in describing a journey

Which vocabulary might be useful
for describing a journey?

The platform was crowded and I stood in anticipation for the scrum to get onto the train. When it finally pulled into the station 5 interminable minutes late, I prepared myself with a deep breath.

The doors opened with a sigh and a flood of people started to pour from the doors like water. People started to try to manoeuvre around the disembarking passengers in their desperation to board and find a seat. A man exiting the train remonstrated with one of these hot headed individuals but to no effect. Eventually I inched onto the train with my nose close to the not to fragrant back of the man in front of me. The vestibule area was already crammed with luggage. As I followed the queue of people into the carriage I saw the overhead racks spilling out with coats and shopping bags, there wasn't a seat in sight, so I stood in the aisle cramped and tired. I pulled out my book and started to read.



Answers

Switches in perspective:

*I smiled at the girl with pink hair as she got onto the bus and found her seat. She smiled back, as always. **I turned back to the window watching the beads of rain catch the reflection of brake lights on the slick road. As we pulled back onto the main lane I saw a woman running down the opposite side of the road jumping onto a bus going in the other direction just before it closed it's doors. The boy in the seat behind me opened a crinkly***

packet of crisps and I felt my own hunger suddenly sharp.



Select a type of journey to describe. Try to change perspective through the description.



Useful vocabulary

platform (n) = the place where we wait for, get onto and get off of a train

pulled into the station (v) = drive slowly into the station

to manoeuvre around (v) = to move carefully around people or objects

embark (v) = to get onto a train/bus/plane/boat

disembark (v) = to get off of a train/bus/plane/boat

to board (v) = to get onto a train/bus/plane/boat

the vestibule area (n) = the area between the main
carriages of a train

luggage (n) = bags

queue of people (n) = people waiting in a line

the carriage (n) = the main area of seats on a train

the overhead racks (n) = the place to put bags and
coats on a train or bus

the aisle (n) = the middle pathway of a
train/bus/plane

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