



Now and Then

Descriptive Writing
A creative piece exploring
a place over two distinct
time-frames

The Task:

Write a description of a place, separated into two timeframes. This description should explore the contrasts between these two times by describing them using extensive sensory description and careful selection of detail.

Choose a place you know

This is a descriptive piece, so while it can encompass an event, your main focus should be on describing a place. It is essential that you choose a place you know well.

You could choose:

- A place you loved as a child that you re-visit now you are older
- A place in two seasons - maybe during the summer and the winter.
- A place in the day and night time - exploring the dramatic difference in the way a familiar place can feel in the dark
- A place like a railway station or a sports stadium that is sometimes bursting with people and activity and sometimes deserted

APPROACHES

1. Take or find a photograph of your place in the two distinct timeframes (see gcse.edutronic.net for examples)
2. Select appropriate music to match the mood and atmosphere you are trying to create and listen to this while you write your draft
3. Consider the 5 senses and devices like alliteration or onomatopoeia to give your writing sensory appeal
4. Concentrate on 'zooming in' and describing very specific physical items in your piece that are symbolic of the difference between the two settings.

IGCSE English Language Coursework

Component Two

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