

## METHOD: Describing pictures in English

Describing pictures is a very useful method for your everyday life. It is also an important and crucial part of your **final exam** and is therefore a method that is used plenty of times in class.

Before you can describe a picture, you should know important phrases and steps for giving the picture's information.



- In order to describe a picture precisely, you can use a plenty of different phrases:

in the upper left corner — at the top — in the upper right corner  
|  
in the foreground |  
on the right (side) in the middle on the left (side)  
|  
in the background |  
in the lower left corner — at the bottom — in the lower right corner

- For a good picture description, follow these steps:

### 1. Beginne allgemein!

- Sage oder schreibe zunächst, **was** du allgemein im Bild siehst.
- Welche(r) Ort, Gegenstand, Personen sind zu sehen?
- z.B. *On the picture I can see a class of 25 students and their teachers in a city.*

### 2. Gehe in einer bestimmten Reihenfolge vor!

- Sage oder schreibe dann, **wen oder was** du siehst, und wo sich die Personen oder Gegenstände im Bild befinden.
- mögliche Reihenfolge: linke Seite → Mitte des Bildes → rechte Seite **UND / ODER** Vordergrund → Hintergrund
- z.B. *On the left side I can see a bus. In front of the bus are the 25 students and their teachers...*

### 3. Ordne die Personen und Dinge einander zu!

- Verwende **Präpositionen!** (z.B. *The hat of one student is yellow and black.*)
- Benutze **Relativsätze!** (z.B. *The hat that one student is wearing is yellow and black.*)

### 4. Beschreibe, was die Personen gerade macht!

- Benutze hierbei das **present progressive** (Form von *be* + Verb mit Endung *-ing*)

### Phrases for describing pictures

#### Step 1:

- In the photo I can see ...

#### Step 2:

- At the top / etc. I can see ...  
- At the top / etc. there is/are ...

#### Step 3:

- The ball is in front of / under / in / on / ...

#### Step 4:

- The boys in the foreground *are playing* football.