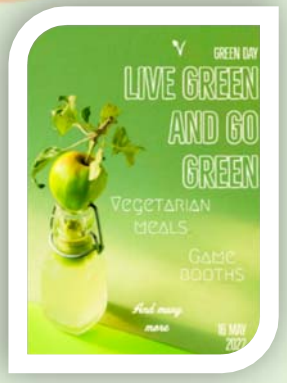


Enhancing the Descriptions of an Event

Example



Topic:
The Student Union and the school tuck shop organised the “Green Day”, where they sold vegetarian meals. Students also took part in other activities on the day.

You are the editor of the school newsletter. You interviewed the tuck shop owner and some students participating in the event. You are going to write an article for the school newsletter explaining where the idea came from and describing the event.

In the opening paragraph, use **sensory language**

to build the *overall atmosphere* and create a *mental picture* of the event

- What did you **hear**, **see**, **smell**, **taste** and **feel** in the event?

Opening Paragraph

The covered playground was **jam-packed** with high-spirited schoolmates, and appeared **buzzier** and smelt **more aromatic** than usual. Some **squealed with delight** as they gobbled down a **finger-licking** veggie burger and **burning** hot fries after an energy-sapping PE lesson. Some **jumped up and down with excitement** in front of a **sparkly** game booth as they won a big **plush** carrot-shaped toy after solving a mind-bending quiz question.

Learning English through Popular Culture

Anime Expo, Hong Kong’s biggest anime, manga and video game exhibition, was held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre last weekend. As a school reporter, you attended the event and interviewed some people dressed in cosplay.

Write an article for your school magazine.



Writing topic taken from Paper 2 of the 2023 HKDSE English Language Examination ©HKEAA

Try this topic

What did you **hear** in the exhibition hall?

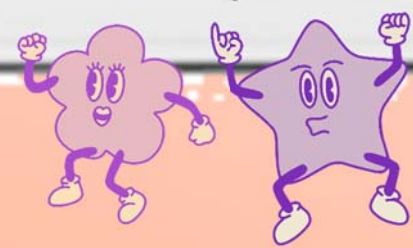
- **announcers/hosts** speaking
- **catchy** anime tunes
- **anime clips and songs**
- **camera shutter clicking**
- **hubbub of laughter and shouting/cheers**
- **boisterous commotion**

What did you **see** in the exhibition hall?

- stalls selling **manga volumes, figurines, make-believe weapons and collectibles**
- **eye-catching** banners and **dazzling** manga artwork displays
- **life-sized** statues of anime characters
- cosplayers wearing **colourful wigs and elaborate costumes**

Opening Paragraph

The Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre was once again **buzzing with laughter and hubbub of anime, manga and video game diehard fans**. The exhibition hall was transformed into a dynamic space adorned with **eye-catching banners, dazzling manga artwork displays and life-sized statues of anime characters**. Among the sea of people, some were **posing for photos in colourful wigs and elaborate costumes** while some were **brandishing their newly bought make-believe weapons**. The **boisterous commotion** was not only heard inside the **air-conditioned** exhibition hall, but also among the enthusiasts in the growing queue **snaking** outside the exhibition centre. Despite the long wait under the **scorching** sun, **their eyes were still beaming with joy** as they could soon freely showcase their larger-than-life spirits.



Enhancing the Descriptions of Event Participants

Language Items

① Relative clause & appositive

To provide **additional information** about the participants

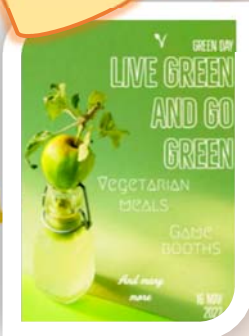
(1) Relative clause

e.g. "It's very palatable!" Benjamin Lee from S4A, who had just devoured a vegan drumstick, exclaimed.

(2) Appositive

e.g. His classmate Lucy Cheung, also the chairperson of Green Club, was impressed by the BYOU (Bring Your Own Utensils) arrangement as much as the "green foods".

Example



② Direct quote

To capture the **tones and attitudes** of the participants and create **a sense of spontaneity**

e.g. Asked whether she would continue to say no to disposable utensils, she answered without hesitation, "I've already got a set of reusable plate and cutlery with me. Why will I not?"

③ Reported speech

To summarise the participants' **views and suggestions** objectively using different reporting verbs (e.g. "expressed", "opined", "suggested", "believed")

e.g. Benjamin agreed with Lucy and suggested that the school hosts similar events like the Stop Food Waste Day to raise consciousness.

Improve this body paragraph



Enhance the descriptions of the participants by using **relative clauses/ appositives, direct quotes and reported speech.**

Messages to convey in this body paragraph

- ① Cosplayers felt at home in the Anime Expo
- ② Cosplayers found it worthwhile to spend a lot of time making outfits for the Expo

Body Paragraph

Entering the exhibition hall, I was welcomed by costumed staff who were greeting

excited participants like me with an anime voice. Everyone in the exhibition hall gladly

(1. Use a relative clause)

followed this advice and there was no shortage of people acting as the characters

they liked. "I've always been a big fan of Anna Kushina but wearing an apron over my

dress and black lace stockings on the street may raise a few eyebrows," Yumi, a

cosplayer dressed as a Lolita-style maid, said, "but I can let loose and flaunt my

(2. Use an appositive)

(3. Use a direct quote)

fantasy with like-minded people here." Naruto Koo, the cosplayer next to Yumi, chimed

(4. Use a relative clause/appositive)

in, "It really feels like home and we're a big family." Asked how much time they had

(5. Use a direct quote)

devoted to making their outfits for the Expo, both stopped for a moment, and

expressed that they had already lost count but it was well worth it.

(6. Use reported speech)