

Youth

Unit aims

Task 1

Describing changes
Describing locations

Task 2

Developing and justifying opinions
Writing introductions

Task 1 Describing changes

- 1 Read the comments by three people talking about the town where they grew up. Answer the questions below.

Dave

I remember there wasn't much to do here when I was growing up. My friends and I used to just hang around in the park, getting into trouble. These days there's much more here for young people. For instance, *the council opened the ice rink, the leisure centre, and the skate park last year.* I wish I'd had things like that to keep me entertained.

Sandra

One of the things I used to really like about this area was the peace and quiet. It was so safe for us as kids. We could play in the streets or in the nearby woods and fields. *They built a bypass and an industrial estate a few years ago,* and there's been a lot more traffic and development since. I don't feel it's safe for my children, and I'd like to move away.

Tom

Well, you can't stand in the way of change, I suppose. Yes, people look at the town now and say it's not as pretty or peaceful as it was in the past. I suppose that's true. Even so, there are more jobs and opportunities now than there were when I was a teenager. I guess you can't have one without losing the other.

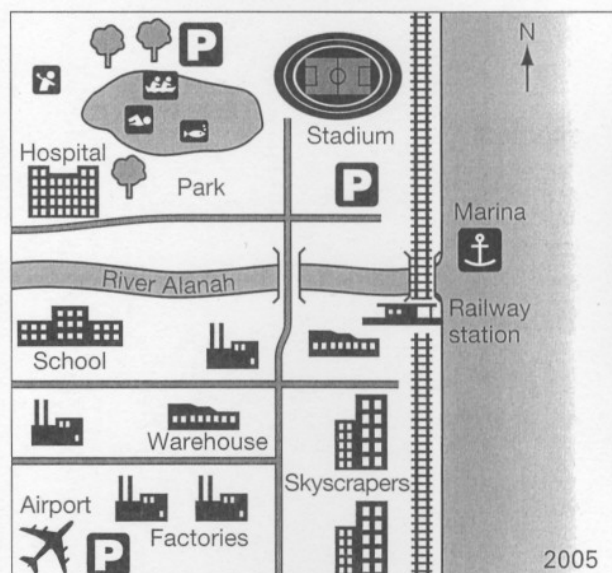
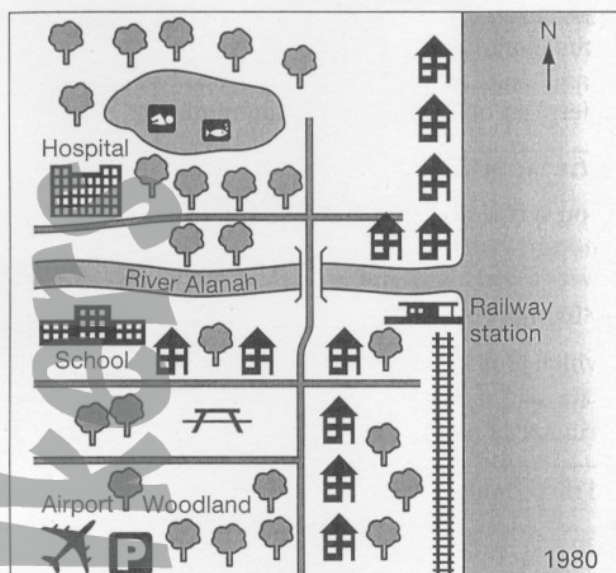
- For each speaker, do they think things were better or worse when they were young? Why?
- What changes have occurred to the place you come from? Do you think they are positive or negative changes?
- How could you express the phrases in italics in a more formal way?
- Imagine you are a young person moving to a new town. Which facilities in the list below would be important to you?

golf course skate park theatre railway station concert hall
gallery stadium ice rink park college airport



2 The maps below show changes that took place in Youngsville in New Zealand over a 25-year period from 1980 to 2005. Answer the following questions:

- What is the most noticeable difference between the two maps?
- Was the town more or less residential in 2005 compared to 1980?
- Were there more or fewer trees in 2005?
- Were the changes dramatic or negligible over the 25-year period?
- What were the two biggest changes north of the river?
- What happened to the houses and trees along the railway line south of the river?



3 Complete the model text below. Use one word from the following list to complete each blank space. The first one has been done for you.

houses experienced noticeable factories developments
comparison residential corner facilities construction

Model text

The maps show the ¹ developments which took place in the coastal town of Youngsville between 1980 and 2005.

In 1980, the town was a much greener ² area with a large number of trees and individual houses, but during the next 25 years the town ³ a number of dramatic changes. The most ⁴ is that all of the trees south of the River Alanah were cut down, with all the ⁵ along the railway line being knocked down and replaced by skyscrapers. Moreover, a new industrial estate with ⁶ and warehouses

sprang up around the airport and school. Only a few trees north of the river remained. The woodland was cleared to make way for a park, a golf course, and car parking ⁷ Further developments were the ⁸ of a stadium near the north-east ⁹ of the lake and a new stretch of railway from the river running directly north. A marina was also built at the mouth of the river.

Overall, a ¹⁰ of the two maps reveals a change from a largely rural to a mainly urban landscape.

Technique

In order to identify changes, study the maps and number the changes on the second one. Think of some general statements, and make notes.

Technique

Do not just describe the map or maps. Describe the developments that took place.



- 4 Transform the sentences below by changing the nouns into verbs and using the passive. Refer to page 7 for more information on *Related verbs and nouns*.

Example

There were *spectacular changes* in the area.
The area *was changed* spectacularly.

- a There were dramatic developments in the town centre.
.....
- b There was a complete transformation of the neighbourhood.
.....
- c There was a total reconstruction of the residential area.
.....
- d There was a total redevelopment of the old factories.
.....
- e There was a rebuilding of the old houses.
.....
- f There was a complete modernization of the entertainment district.
.....

- 5 Look again at the sentences you wrote in 4. Which could be rewritten in the active form?

- 6 Rewrite sentences a–h below using synonyms from the model text in 3.

- a The maps show changes which *occurred* between 1980 and 2005.
.....
- b Very few trees *were left*.
.....
- c Over the next 25 years, all these houses *were demolished*.
.....
- d The single dwellings *were replaced* by skyscrapers.
.....
- e The trees *were chopped down*.
.....
- f The area *witnessed* dramatic changes.
.....
- g The woodland *gave way* to a golf course.
.....
- h A marina *was also constructed*.
.....

- 7 Put the verbs below into the correct form. All of the changes took place between 2000 and 2005.

Examples

The block of flats *was turned* (turn) into a hotel. (passive)

The block of flats *made way* (make way) for a hotel. (active)

- a The row of old houses (knock down) to make way for a road.
- b The forest (cut down) to build a railway.
- c The area (redevelop) completely.
- d The factory (convert) into an art gallery.
- e The city centre (undergo) a total transformation.
- f The row of old terraced houses in the city (pull down) and (replace) by a block of flats.
- g A sports complex (construct) in the suburbs.
- h A number of spectacular changes (take place).
- i The whole centre of the town (transform) by new developments.

- a Over the period
b During the five year period
c From 2000 to 2005
d Over the past five years

- ### Examples

By 2005, the block of flats *had been turned* into a hotel. (passive)

By 2005, the block of flats *had made way* for a hotel. (active)

e

- 10** It is sometimes important to state locations clearly on a map. Read the examples. Then answer the questions a–g about the maps on page 39 using the phrases in the box.

Example

Only a few trees *north of the river* remained.

Where is the golf course? It is *north-west of the lake*.

south of the river beside the railway line in the south-west of the town
 north of the skyscrapers south of the golf course
 south-west of the stadium north-east of the lake

- a Where are the skyscrapers? They are
- b Where is the stadium? It is
- c Where is the lake? It is
- d Where is the hospital? It is
- e Where is the railway station? It is
- f Where is the airport? It is
- g Where is the school? It is

- 11 Complete the following sentences by choosing the correct prepositions of place from the alternatives.

- a Several changes took place *at/in/on* the town of Northgate.
b North of the town, there is a lake surrounded *in/off/by* trees.
c A number of new houses were built *beside/at/on* the railway line.
d There was a large industrial area located *on/in/at* the north.
e A new railway was constructed which ran *from/at/in* north to south.
f Two new hotels were erected *on/in/at* the banks of the river.
g A large number of new villas were built *beside/at/to* the sea.
h A yachting club was set up *on/in/at* the shores of the lake.
i A number of wind turbines were placed in the sea, just *off/on/to* the coastline.