

Unit 2: Descriptive Essays

Step 1: Stimulating Ideas

Exercise 1: Thinking about the topic

A. Answer the questions.

B. Make notes about a favorite place you would like to get a specific food. Think about the sights, sounds, and feelings of the place.

Exercise 2: Reading about the topic

- Check the meaning of difficult words of the passage in the post on the Facebook page “Guava Passage Vocabulary.”

- Read the short essay “How to Eat a Guava.”

Exercise 3: Understanding the text

- Write T or F for each statement.

Exercise 4: Responding to the text

- Based on your reading the passage, answer the questions.

Exercise 5 Free Writing

- Choose one of the topics. Write notes for ten minutes, expressing your thoughts and feelings.

Step 2: Brainstorming and Outlining

Exercise 1: Brainstorming Ideas

- On a separate piece of paper, think of a food you really like or dislike. Brainstorm ideas about this food in a word web like the example given. Think about the food’s taste, smell, appearance, preparation, and any sounds associated.

Exercise 2: Identifying audience and purpose

- Read and think of the questions.

Exercise 3: Brainstorming vocabulary

A. Think about the food you would like to write about. Add two more words to each set to describe the food. You may use the list of vocabulary on the Facebook page. Then, circle the words you would like to use.

B. Using the dictionary, write sentences using words to describe food.

Rhetorical Focus

- Read the information about descriptive organization.

Exercise 4: Reading a student essay

- Read the short essay “The Best Pizza in Town and Maybe in the World” and answer the question above.

Exercise 5: Examining the student essay

A. Based on your reading and understanding the essay, answer the questions A & B.

Exercise 6: Completing an outline

- Use the essay and fill in the spaces according to the ideas given in the previous essay to write an outline.

Exercise 7: Writing an outline

- Make a similar outline, using the following template.

Introduction (First Paragraph)	
Hook Get the reader interested.	
Background Information Explain who, what, when, and where.	
Thesis statement Prepare for the description by focusing on the topic and what you will say about it.	
Body Paragraphs (Middle Paragraphs)	
Topic Sentence Provide a controlling idea in each paragraph.	
Descriptive Details Develop your controlling idea.	
Conclusion (Last Paragraph)	
Final Opinion Give your final opinion of the topic.	