

Description Students write a short text about what their hometown was like in the past

Lesson link Use this activity after exercise 3b, page 57

Time 20 minutes

Extra material None

Instructions

- a Tell SS to think about their hometown. Write on the board: *Was your hometown different when you were a child? How?* Elicit some answers and write one or two examples on the board.
- b Divide SS into pairs. Give them three minutes to discuss the question.

While SS discuss, write on the board:

My hometown is called...
In the past there was / wasn't...
When I was a child...
Now there is / isn't...

Ask SS to feed back some information to the class. Ask which grammar they used when they talked (elicit *there is / are* and *there was / were*). Draw SS' attention to the useful phrases and elicit any more that SS may want to use. Explain that it's useful to write down some phrases and to consider what grammar to use before beginning writing.

- c Tell the class that they are going to do a writing exercise. Suggest that SS work in pairs if they are from the same town, or individually if they are from different towns.
- d Give a time limit of ten minutes and allow dictionary use. Go around the class and help SS where necessary. If SS are working in pairs, encourage them to talk about their use of grammar and vocabulary as they write.
- e When SS have finished writing, ask them to read each other's texts. If there is time, SS could peer correct.