

Activity Type

Vocabulary Exercises:
matching, categorising,
identifying, gap-fill,
writing descriptions

Speaking Activity:
describing, guessing (pair
work)

Focus

Describing objects

Aim

To learn how to describe
objects using adjectives,
the materials they're
made of, and their uses.

Preparation

Make one copy of the
two-page worksheet for
each student.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

This describing objects worksheet helps students learn how to describe things using adjectives, the materials they're made of, and their uses.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

First, students match sentence halves together to make sentences that describe objects.

Exercise A- Answer key

- | | | |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. g | 5. i | 9. j |
| 2. e | 6. k | 10. f |
| 3. l | 7. b | 11. a |
| 4. h | 8. c | 12. d |

Students then put words in bold from the sentences into their correct category: adjective, material, or use.

Exercise B - Answer key

Adjective	Material	Use
noisy entertaining fast round	wool metal wood leather	wash clothes cutting things climbing boil water

Next, students read about describing objects and identify words that show the correct grammar rules.

Exercise C - Answer key

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. adjective | 3. gerund |
| 2. material | 4. infinitive |

After that, students complete sentences to describe objects, including their qualities, the materials they're made from, and their uses.

Exercise D - Answer key

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A pencil, wood | 5. An envelope, paper |
| 2. sharp, cutting | 6. A scarf, wool |
| 3. soft, sleeping | 7. round, drinking |
| 4. Sofas, comfortable | 8. useful, eating |

(continued on the next page)

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Procedure continued

Next, students write three sentences to describe each object shown using words from a box.

Exercise E - Answer key

1. a wallet

It is useful.

It is made of leather.

It is used to keep money in.

2. a key

It is important.

It is made of metal.

It is used to open doors or locks.

3. a bottle

It is practical.

It is made of plastic or glass.

It is used to hold liquids like water or juice.

4. a shelf

It is strong.

It is made of wood.

It is used for holding things.

5. a lighter

It is dangerous.

It is made of plastic.

It is used to light fires.

6. an eraser

It is small.

It is made of rubber.

It is used to correct mistakes.

Lastly, students think of two objects and describe each one in three sentences to a partner without saying what they are. Their partner then tries to guess each object.

A. Match the sentence halves together to make sentences that describe objects.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. A Ferrari is | a. is noisy . |
| 2. Forks are | b. to wash clothes quickly. |
| 3. A kettle is used | c. is entertaining . |
| 4. These tables are | d. made of wool . |
| 5. A ring | e. made of metal . |
| 6. A belt is | f. for climbing . |
| 7. A washing machine is used | g. very fast . |
| 8. A television | h. made of wood . |
| 9. Scissors are used | i. is round . |
| 10. A rope is used | j. for cutting things . |
| 11. A hairdryer | k. made of leather . |
| 12. A sweater is | l. to boil water . |



B. Put the words in bold from the sentences into their correct category.

Adjective	Material	Use

You can describe objects in many ways. You can describe them by using adjectives, by the material they are made of, and their uses.

C. Read the sentences and underline the words that show the correct grammar rules.

- When we describe an object, we say it **is** + *adjective / material / gerund* (verb+ing).
- When we describe an object, we say it **is made of** + *adjective / material / gerund*.
- When we describe an object's use, we can say it **is used for** + *infinitive / gerund*.
- When we describe an object's use, we can also say it **is used to** + *infinitive / gerund*.

D. Complete the sentences that describe objects using the words or phrases below.

wood comfortable sleeping paper wool drinking cutting soft
 a pencil eating sharp sofas round useful a scarf an envelope

Object	Adjective	Material	Use
1.	is useful.	It is made of	It is used for writing.
2. A knife	is	It is made of metal	It is used for
3. A pillow	is	It is made of cotton.	It is used for
4.	are	They are made of leather.	They are used to help you relax.
5.	is light.	It is made of	It is used to put letters in.
6.	is soft.	It is made of	It is used to keep you warm.
7. A cup	is	It is made of plastic.	It is used for
8. A spoon	is	It is made of metal.	It is used for

E. Write three sentences describing each object using the words from the box.

light fires	important	leather	strong	small	rubber	plastic or glass
hold liquids like water	dangerous	open doors or locks	metal	correct mistakes		
useful	practical	keep money in	wood	plastic	holding things	

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. a wallet | 4. a shelf |
| | |
| | |
| 2. a key | 5. a lighter |
| | |
| | |
| 3. a bottle | 6. an eraser |
| | |
| | |

F. Now, think of two objects and describe each one to a partner in three sentences without saying what they are. Can your partner guess the objects?