Final Exam Practice: **Descriptive Reports**

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Descriptive Reports

Hello ladies,

What is a descriptive report?

Is it the same as an essay?

Decide which is the best answer:

A
1. You describe *only* what you see, e.g. a flowchart, a graph, a pie chart or a table
2. You describe what you see and *add* some extra information, opinion and examples

B
1. It is different from a Task II essay and you do not have to write as many words
2. It is the same as a Task II essay, but you do not have to write as many words

C
1. You should clearly state your opinion (this is required)
2. You should not give your opinion (it is not required)

D
1. The purpose of a descriptive report is to describe what you see and give an opinion
2. The purpose of a descriptive report is to describe only what you see and not give an opinion

Descriptive Reports

Well then,

What exactly do we need to do?

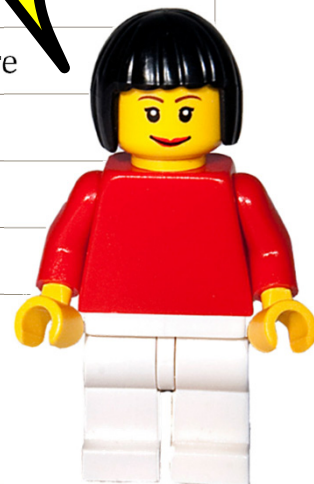What is the style and structure?

Answer these questions:

1. What will I have to describe in the final exam?

2. How many words do I have to write?

3. What happens if I write less than 110 words?

4. What happens if I write less than 100 words?

5. How many **paragraphs** do I need?

6. How many **parts** should there be in an introduction?

7. What do I need to write in the sentence starting: *"Overall. …"*

Example Task

Country	The USA	The UK
Capital	Washington	London
Official language	English	English
Population	315 million	63 million
Life expectancy	78 years	82 years
UN Happiness Index	◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆	◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆
Total GDP	$15 trillion	$2.9 trillion
GDP per person	$49,000	$51,000
Main industries	Services, Automobiles and Agriculture	Services, Manufacturing and Agriculture
Area	7,663,941 square kilometres	243,610 square kilometres
Highest point	Mount McKinley – 6,194 meters	Ben Nevis – 1,343 meters
Longest river	Missouri River – 3,000 km	River Themes – 300 km

What is this?

How many things are being compared?

What are their names?

Example Task

Country	The USA	The UK
Capital	Washington	London
Official language	English	English
Population	315 million	63 million
Life expectancy	78 years	82 years
UN Happiness Index	◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆	◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
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Now...
Are the similarities greater?
or
Are the differences greater?

1. Number of similarities (including things that are **exactly the same**): ___

2. Number of differences: ___
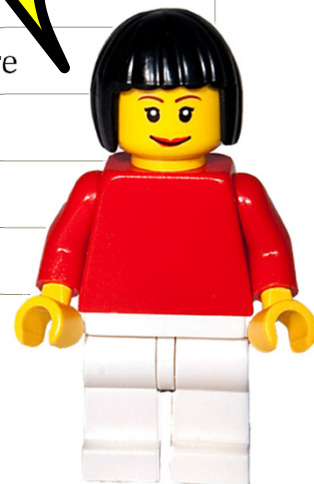
Decide which is the best introduction:

A The table provides some facts and figures on two countries, the USA and the UK. In this report I will compare and contrast between them. Overall, it seems that there are more differences than similarities.

B The table provides some information on two famous countries, the USA and the UK. In this essay I will compare and contrast between them. Overall, there are more differences than similarities but if I had a choice I would visit London.

C In this report I am going to compare and contrast between the USA and the UK. Overall, it seems that there are more differences than similarities. Now I am going to talk about all of the information that we can see.

How many parts should your introduction have?

Which is the best introduction?

Why do you think so?

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What is the best sentence to describe the highlighted information on:

"Official language"

1. Both countrys have some Official language, english

2. Both countries have the same official language, English.

Example Task

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Life expectancy	78 years	82 years
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What adjectives could I use to describe: "Population"?
Could I use a comparative and/or a superlative?

1. Comparative structure: X has a _ _ _ _ _er ABCD than Y (NNN compared to NNN).

2. Superlative structure: X has the _ _ _ _ _est ABCD (NNN compared to NNN).

Example Task

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What is the round number?

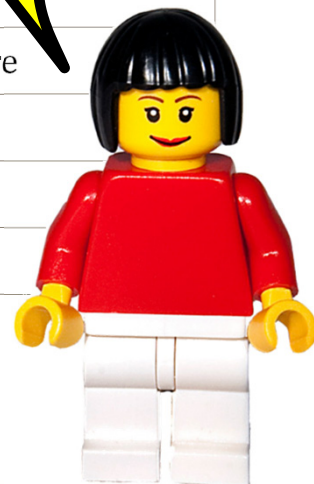Which figure is "just under" and which figure us "just over"? … Write the sentence!

1. With respect to life expectancy _ .

2. Where else can we use "just under" and "just over"?

Example Task

UAEU

Country	The USA	The UK
Capital	Washington	London
Official language	English	English
Population	315 million	63 million
Life expectancy	78 years	82 years
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Here the figures are "3 from 10" and "6 from 10". How do we describe this using "half" or "twice"?

1. People in the UK are _____ as happy compared to people living in the USA.

2. People in the USA are only _____ as happy compared to people living in the UK.

Body Paragraphs

How many do I need?

How should I start it/them?

Does it matter if I start with the differences or the similarities?

Answer these questions:

1. How many **body** paragraphs should my TASK I report have?

2. How should I begin each of my body paragraphs?

3. Does it matter if I start the body of my report with the differences or the similarities?

4. Where do I describe the things that are **exactly the same**?

5. Do I need a conclusion?

Body Paragraphs

OK, look at these parts of my report.

Decide where the words in the box can go.

All 21 words/phrases can be used!

The table provides some (a) ___ on two countries, the USA and the UK. In this report (b) ___ compare and contrast between them. Overall, it seems that there are more differences than similarities.

(c) ___ at the similarities, there are four. They are (d) ___ in one way ... . With (e) ___ life expectancy... . (f) ___ salary, both have (g) ___ the same $50,000. ...

(h) ___ on the differences, there are seven. The USA has (i) ___ mountain (Mount McKinley at 6,194). The river Themes in the UK (j) ___ the Missouri River in the USA. ...

1. about	8. around	15. exactly the same
2. data	9. I will	16. respect to
3. in terms of	10. Secondly, I will focus	17. facts and figures
4. Firstly, I will look	11. Now I shall focus	18. the tallest
5. I am going to	12. the highest	19. information
6. I shall	13. approximately	20. Nearly
7. I will start by looking	14. is shorter than	21. I will begin by looking

Practice What You've Learnt!

Country	**The USA**	**The UK**
Company (Model)	Ford (Explorer)	Land Rover (Range Rover)
Price	$38,000	$64,550
Production per year	315,003	63,006
Safety Rating	◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆	◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
Top speed	153 miles per hour	197 miles per hour
Engine size	5.2	5.2
Fuel efficiency	51 miles per gallon of petrol	49 miles per gallon of petrol
Boot size (for luggage)	80 litres	40 litres
Special features	Sat-nav & iPad connectivity	Traction control & Diff. lock
Distribution	Global	Global

Write a report describing the key information in this table

120 words