

10.4 Speaking and writing

GOALS ■ Check and clarify ■ Write a detailed description of a scene

Speaking & Listening checking and clarifying

- 1 Work with a partner. Look at the two photos and find at least three similarities and three differences between them. Which photo looks most like a café in your country? Why?



- 2 Student A, turn to page 131. Student B, turn to page 134. You each have a photo of a market. Describe the photos to each other, without looking at your partner's photo, and find three similarities and three differences.
- 3a **10.12**))) Listen to two people talking about the same photos.
- b What similarities and differences do they find? Discuss the questions with a partner.
- Are either of the photos similar to markets in your countries?
 - How are they different?
- 4 Read the Language for speaking box and add the following three headings.
- Ways of checking you understand
 - Ways of checking the other person understands
 - Ways of asking the person to repeat

LANGUAGE FOR SPEAKING checking understanding and clarifying

- 1 _____
Are you still with me?
Do you see/know what I mean?
 a _____
- 2 _____
Do you mean ...?
So, are you saying ...?
Am I right in thinking (that) ...?
So, if I understand you correctly ...
 b _____
- 3 _____
I'm sorry, I didn't quite catch that last bit.
I'm sorry, what did you say about ...?
 c _____

- 5 **10.13**))) Listen to three extracts from the listening in exercise 3 and add them to the correct section of the Language for speaking box (a-c).
- 6 **TASK** Student A, turn to page 131. Student B, turn to page 134. Find three similarities and three differences, and describe the photos to each other. Use the language from the Language for speaking box when you need to check understanding or clarify.

Writing & Reading describing a scene in detail

- 7 Read the two descriptions of the café in the first photo in exercise 1. What is missing in the first text?

It's an old café in Porto, called the Majestic. It was first opened in 1921, and it has not changed since then. As you walk in from the street, it takes a while for your eyes to get used to it, because the only windows are next to the glass door at the front. The walls are covered in large mirrors, making the café feel much larger, and reflecting the lamps in the ceiling.

The smell of the coffee and food makes you want to buy something, so you sit down at one of the tables.

The waiters are wearing old-fashioned jackets, but nowadays they are more likely to be serving tourists wearing shorts and sunglasses than smartly dressed ladies and gentlemen.

It's a very famous old café in Porto, called the Majestic. It was first opened in 1921, and sitting in there can still make you feel like you're in the 1920s. As you walk in from the dazzlingly sunny street, it takes a while for your eyes to get used to the dark within, as the only windows are next to the big stained-glass door at the front. However, the walls are covered in large decorative golden mirrors, making the café appear much larger, and reflecting the twinkling lamps in the ceiling.

The bitter aroma of coffee mixing with the sweet smell of the Majestic's famous almond tarts starts to make you feel hungry as you sit comfortably in the solid wooden chairs. On the table is a stiff white tablecloth, just waiting for you to cover it with delicious food and drink. You might order a *pastel de nata*, a feast of crisp pastry and a smooth, rich yellow cream filling.

The waiters, in their striking white jackets, also have an old-fashioned feel, though these days they are more likely to be serving tourists in their shorts and sunglasses than smartly dressed ladies and gentlemen. If the café is busy, it can be quite noisy as the clatter of cups and saucers and cutlery bounces off the high ceilings; but even the tourists tend to murmur quietly, as if in a sacred place.

- 8 Read the second description in exercise 7 again. Which words can you find related to the senses? Add them to the Language for writing box.

LANGUAGE FOR WRITING describing a scene in detail

Sound words

whisper, crunch, _____

Taste/smell words

fresh, savoury, bitter, _____

Touch words

sticky, rough, prickly, _____

Sight words

striped, bright, _____

- 9 **TASK** Choose a café, park, market or other public place that you know well and write a short description. Try to describe what all your senses experience, not just what you can see.

