



Road
Condition: Made of: Width: Surroundings: Time of day: General feeling:
Key
Size: Made of: Age: Condition:
Barrier
What: Size: Made of: Beyond: General feeling:
Animal
Kind: Number of: Animal's mood: Animal's action:
Water
What: Size: Condition: Depth:
Structure/Building
What: Size: Condition: Your mood:
Person
Who: Appearance: Your feeling:

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The Journey

This imaginative teaching activity helps students to practice describing things, e.g. size, condition, feelings, etc. Students describe in detail what they see as they are led on a journey. Students can also discover elements of their personality in an enjoyable way.

Before class, make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Procedure

Hand out a copy of the worksheet to each student. Explain that the students will go on a journey using their imagination. As each situation is approached, the students will close their eyes and take a mental snapshot of the picture in their minds before opening their eyes. Then they will write the details using adjectives in the appropriate places on their worksheet.

Start the activity by saying, "You are walking down a long, long road."

At this point, pause long enough for students to picture the road in their minds. Have them fill in the information on their worksheet in the first box.

When everyone has finished, have the students close their eyes again and continue on the journey. Then say, "You walk for a long time, and suddenly you see a key on the road."

Again, pause and have the students take a mental picture of the key and write a detailed description of the key. Continue leading the students from situation to situation. Use the following as a guide:

You continue walking down the road for a long time. Suddenly, the road stops. You see a barrier.

You walk around the barrier, and suddenly you see an animal.

You walk past the animal and keep on walking. Then you see some water.

You continue walking, as you walk, you see a structure/building of some sort.

You continue walking, and you go up a small hill. Standing on the top, you see a person.

When you have finished all the situations and the students have finished writing, ask the students to describe what they saw in the first situation (the road). Reading from their notes, encourage students to form complete sentences. Then tell the students you will give them an interpretation of each situation.

Interpretations

road: how you think of your life right now

key: how you think of your intelligence

barrier: how you think of death (the end of the road)

animal: how you deal with problems in life

water: your experiences and/or dreams of love/romance

structure: how you value material things and the importance you place on them

person a) someone deeply respected; b) someone deeply loved; c) someone the student would like to become

You could ask the students the meaning of each situation, and see if they can guess the psychoanalytical symbolism themselves. Also, you can the students interpret their own or each other's situations.