Chicago Architecture – one building at a time.

EAE Learning objectives for this lesson

Learn about the how to describe buildings using adjectives and how to structure sentences using linking words.

Activity One: Ask and answer with your teacher or partner.



- Have you ever travelled to America?
- Have you been to Chicago?
- What do you know about American architecture?
- Which buildings do you admire in America?

Activity Two - **Descriptions in English**

The use of adjectives is essential when trying to describe a noun or pronoun. Good writers and speakers are able to use adjectives to create clear, mental images for the reader or listener. As you continue to work on your English, don't be afraid to use multiple adjectives to describe something. Using more than three physically descriptive type adjectives in sequence to describe one noun or pronoun would sound a little awkward. When using multiple adjectives in a sequence, you must be aware of the correct adjective order. The proper order of adjectives is listed below along with some examples for each category.

1. **Determiners** – a, an, the, my, your, several, etc.
2. **Observations** – lovely, boring, stimulating, etc.
3. **Size** – tiny, small, huge, etc.
4. **Shape** – round, square, rectangular, etc.
5. **Age** – old, new, ancient, etc.
6. **Color** – red, blue, green, etc.
7. **Origin** – British, American, Mexican, etc.
8. **Material** – gold, copper, silk, etc.
9. **Qualifier** – limiters for compound nouns.



Here are some examples:

"The interesting, small, rectangular, blue car is parked in my space."
"I bought a beautiful, long, red, Italian, silk tie."
"My father lives in a lovely, gigantic, ancient, brick house."
"I have an annoying, small, circular, American, tin, alarm clock."
"Let's order a delicious, huge, rectangular, pepperoni pizza."
"We all love our smart, petite, British teacher."
"They all received several dazzling, small, ancient, gold coins."
"She owns a stunning, large, old, brown dog named Boris."

Source - Thomas Williams, teacher at EC San Diego English school

Activity Three: **Chicago - Descriptions**

Chicago has long been a laboratory for architectural innovation and experimentation. Discover the stories behind some of the city's most significant skyscrapers, museums, theatres, bridges, homes, schools, houses of worship and past.

Look at the following pictures of famous Chicago buildings and using the list of adjectives, and others that you can think of, to help you describe them:

Rippling , sculptural, ornate, majestic, Luxurious, dramatic , exuberant, humble, affordable, comfortable, harmonious, diverse, practical,









Activity Four: Work with a partner and try and describe a building with as many adjectives as you can. Practice describing buildings.
Words to help you: brick-built, comfortable, detached, furnished, high-rise, modular, open-plan, rooftop, spacious. Use a dictionary and add to this list.

E.g I like the Eiffel Tower, it's such a beautiful structure, built with iron and the tallest building in Paris.

E.g I love that hotel with a swimming pool on the roof. You can see the whole of the bay of Cannes!

Activity Five: **Linking words.**

In the first place, as matter of fact, in addition, in the same fashion, not to mention, equally important, together with, similarly, furthermore, additionally.

Read the following article and underline all the linking words

In addition to the historic buildings that Chicago is famous for many new building have sprung up in recent years which have become equally as famous as the skyscrapers of the early 21st century. The aqua tower has received great critical acclaim and not to mention the new Chicago Riverwalk which has brought a great deal of urban regeneration to this previously underused part of Chicago. Together with the Chicago City council plan to pedestrianise parts of the city centre the important changes that are happening now will be similarly copied in other US cities. Furthermore Chicago has been predicted to grow in population so the these new styles of architecture and approaches to city living will be additionally beneficial to it's future residents.

Now write a short article using some linking words about your favourite city or town in France.

Activity Six: Watch this video on architect Frank Lloyd Wright's most famous house, 'Falling Water'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HuZ0x5Qkgzg



Answer the following questions:

1. Where and when was this house built?

2. Why is the house called Falling water

3 Fill in the missing word from the following sentence, 'the house is a masterpiece of ……architecture'

4. How did the public react to Falling water in 1938?

5. Why is the house still considered memorable today?

6. What does ' working at the height of his powers' mean?

7. Describe what you understands by the terms 'continuity of space' and 'continuity of materials'

8. What qualities do students of architecture still appreciate in this house.



Activity Seven: **Role plays:**

With your partner or teacher make a dialogue about the following three situations.

1. **You are a journalist interviewing Frank Lloyd Wright and you want to know what inspired him to design this house.**

2. **You are a young architect and you meet a wealthy investor who wants to build his dream house, try and convince him that you are the right person for the job.**

3. **Challenge your partner to try and convince you how important it is to build using recycled materials.**

Activity Eight: **Catch phrase.**

A catchphrase is a phrase or expression recognised by its repeated utterance. Such phrases often originate in popular culture and in the arts, and typically spread through word of mouth and a variety of mass media.Architects sometimes use the phrase, "Finish it, photograph it, forget it' .



Can you come up ten phrases that you would use to promote your favourite style of architecture or your views on architecture.

Design it, build it, use it, live it!

