

Speech Writing Exercise

Extreme Adjective Exercise:

Fill in the gaps, between a normal adjective and an extreme adjective.

<i>small</i>	tiny
1	huge
dirty	2
3	hideous
4	gorgeous

hungry	5
6	spotless
cold	7
8	furious
good	9

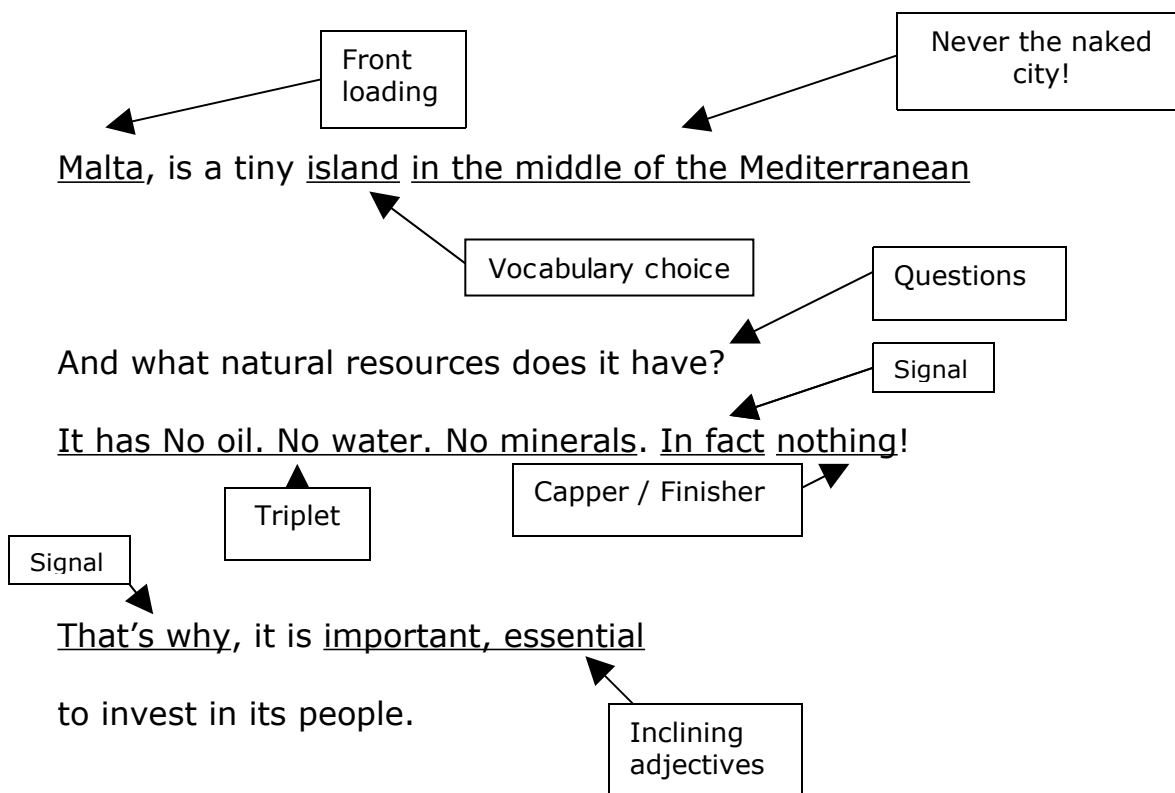
Speech Version 1

In a small country like Malta, with no natural resources, it is important to invest in its people.

Rewrite the text above to make it more interesting!

James Abela ELT

Speech Version 2



Further Practice

1. A language like English is difficult to learn, so therefore students must work hard.
2. To do better in exams, students must do their homework.
3. To be more profitable, companies must reduce costs.

James Abela ELT



Grammatical description of techniques

- Front Loading – Putting the key noun of interest at the front of the sentence
- Vocabulary choice – Choose words with the best connotations. Island, suggests a small place rather than country. (Use a thesaurus and dictionary to help.)
- Never the naked city – For people who don't know Malta well, add something of interest so that people can empathise with the place.
- Questions – People will naturally answer questions and this will increase the attention of your audience.
- Signal – Indicates something important is coming and provides linkage.
- Triplet – Say three things to emphasise a point
- Capper / Finisher – End with a big statement, even if it is exaggerated
- Inclining adjectives – Start with a normal adjective (important) and then add an extreme adjective (essential).

References

- Mark Powell, Presenting in English
- Leil Lowndes, How To Talk To Anyone

Teacher's notes

Lesson idea

Warmer: Either cut up the matching version or use the gap fill version above to revise extreme adjectives.

1. Get students to have a go at rewriting the text, perhaps as a paired writing exercise. They can then compare their ideas.
2. Show them version 2 and see if they can use any of the techniques for improving their own speech writing.
3. Elicit the grammar points. (And further examples if necessary)
4. Ask students to use the techniques to do the further practice.

Extreme Adjective answers:

<i>small</i>	tiny
large	huge
dirty	filthy
ugly	hideous
pretty	gorgeous

hungry	starving
clean	spotless
cold	freezing
angry	furious
good	excellent

Extreme adjectives matching version

small	tiny	hungry	starving
large	huge	clean	spotless
dirty	filthy	cold	freezing
ugly	hideous	angry	furious
pretty	gorgeous	good	excellent

PREPARATION BEFORE CLASS: Before class, photocopy the paper, cut out each cell and clip together in packs.