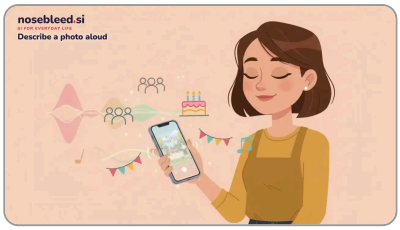
Describe a photo with AI



Use AI to describe a picture in words: handy if your sight isn't what it was, and fun for sharing memories.

By the end, you'll be able to:

- say what makes a good description
- ask AI to describe a picture
- spot when AI gets a description wrong, and think about privacy

Warm-up Describe it without showing it

Think of a favourite photo at home. Describe it to a partner in three sentences. Could they picture it?

1 What makes a good description?

Here are two descriptions of the same holiday photo. Which is more useful to someone who can't see it, and why?

A Some people at the seaside.

B Three people sit on a sunny beach. An older woman in a yellow sunhat smiles at a boy of about eight, who holds up a crab in a bucket. Behind them, the sea is calm and blue.

2 Describe this picture



Write three sentences describing it, main thing first.

If you have a device, take a photo of this picture and try the prompt.

TRY THIS PROMPT

Please describe this picture for someone who can't see it well. Start with the main thing, then the details: people, colours and any writing. Keep it to five sentences.

3 Spot the mistakes

Here's a description an AI might give of the picture on page 2. It has **two mistakes**. Find them.

EXAMPLE AI DESCRIPTION

Two women stand on a dirt path in the countryside, smiling. The woman on the left wears a mustard-yellow dress and brown boots; the woman on the right wears a teal jacket and dark trousers, and carries a rucksack. Behind them is a wooden stile and a fence, with green hills and a large tree. A small brown dog sits by the stile.

4 Is it OK to share?

Sharing a photo with AI is a bit like showing it to a stranger. Tick what you'd do.

	Fine	Think first	Don't
A photo of a flower in your garden			
A photo of a letter showing your address			
A family photo with your grandchildren in it			
A photo of your bank card			

Find out more: read the free step-by-step guide, with a 10-second video, at **nosebleed.si/ideas/describe-a-photo-aloud**

Teacher notes: Describe a photo with AI

Time: 45 to 60 minutes

Level: beginners; no AI experience needed

Group: any size; works well in pairs

You'll need: a copy per learner; phones or tablets with an AI chat app (optional)

Before the session

Try the prompt with the picture on page 2 (a still from one of our videos). Describing pictures is a real help for people with sight loss, and good practice in giving clear details for everyone.

Running order

5 min	**Warm-up.** Describe a photo to a partner.
10 min	**Part 1.** Compare the two descriptions.
15 min	**Part 2.** Describe the picture, then try the prompt.
15 min	**Parts 3 and 4.** Spot the mistakes, then the privacy table.
5 min	**Wrap-up.** Helpful, but AI can get things wrong.

Answers: Part 1

B is better: it says who is there, what they're doing, colours and the setting, with the main thing first.

Answers: Part 3

1. Nobody is carrying a rucksack.
2. There's no dog in the picture.

AI sometimes adds things that aren't there, so don't rely on it where safety matters.

Answers: Part 4

Fine: the flower.
Think first: the family photo. Ask the people in it, and think about where it might be stored.
Don't: the letter and the bank card.

Discussion points

- Don't rely on AI for medicine labels, stairs, crossing roads or checking money. Ask a person.
- In the UK, RNIB offers advice on sight loss and technology.

Adapting it

Extension: learners describe a picture to a partner, who draws it, then compare.

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