

## TELETANDEM

### TEXT 1:

You should write a descriptive text to your partner in order to convince him or her to visit São José do Rio Preto.

### How to write descriptive texts...

- ✓ In descriptive writing, the author does not tell the reader what was seen, felt, tasted, smelled, or heard. Rather, he describes something that he experienced and, through his choice of words, makes it seem real. In other words, descriptive writing is vivid, colorful, and detailed.
- ✓ Descriptive writing creates an impression in the reader's mind of an event, a place, a person, or thing. The writing will be such that it will set a mood or describe something in such detail that if the reader saw it, they would recognize it. Descriptive writing will bring words to life and makes the text interesting.
- ✓ The most important thing is to catch and to hold the reader's interest. Here is a checklist of ways to do it:

BORING	INTERESTING
<b>Generalizing</b> A large vegetable An old ship Opinions	<b>Being specific</b> A three-quarter-pound sweet potato The Titanic facts Observations Quotations
<b>No “picture”</b> A glass of wine	<b>Descriptive details</b> A long-stemmed glass of aromatic, golden Muscatel
<b>Dull, unobservant vocabulary</b> Look as	<b>Precise words</b> Gaze, glance, stare, glare, peep, beg, implore, request, demand, invite
<b>Repetition</b> Car... car... car... car... As well... as well... as well...	<b>Variation</b> Car... Ford... vehicle... car... As well... also... What is more...
<b>Being predictable</b> “There are five reasons why I like...” “The fifth reason I like it is...”	<b>Surprising the reader</b> Start with something striking Original thinking and observation Save something for the end
<b>Always talking about yourself</b>	<b>Always thinking about your readers, and how to interest them</b>

**Example:**

**NEW YORK**

New York, **the largest city in the U.S.**, is an architectural marvel with **plenty of historic monuments, magnificent buildings and countless dazzling skyscrapers**. Besides the architectural delights, New York is **an urban jungle that has everything to offer to visitors**. The city is home to numerous museums, parks, trendy neighborhoods and shopping streets.

[...]

**Central Park is one of those places that make New York such a great place to live.** The **huge park**, 341 hectare large (843 acres), is located in the center of Manhattan. Its design has served as an example for city parks around the world. The park boasts **several lakes, theaters, ice rinks, fountains, tennis courts, baseball fields, many playgrounds and other facilities**. It is also home to the Central Park Zoo and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Especially during the weekends, when cars are not allowed into the park, **Central Park is a welcome oasis in this hectic city.**

[...]

**More than any other building in the world, the Empire State Building embodies the ambition of humans to build towers that reach for the skies.** The skyscraper is probably New York's best known building and can be seen on many postcards. The Empire State Building also features in many films, most notably the classic film 'King Kong' from 1933. Even today, though the building

has been stripped from its title of the world's tallest building, **it is a symbol of New York itself, visited by more than three million people each year.**

[...]

**References:**

<http://examples.yourdictionary.com/descriptive-text-examples.html>

<http://www.aviewoncities.com/> → This is an excellent website with a lot of examples that may help you write your text! ☺