

8A An inner journey 1

Activity type: Listening – Guided imagining – Individuals/Pairs

Aim: To describe objects, animals and places

Language: Language of description – Use any time after 8.2.

Preparation: Make one copy of the worksheet for each learner.

Time: 20–30 minutes

- 1 Invite learners to relax and close their eyes, if they feel comfortable doing so.
- 2 Tell them that that you are going to tell them a story and as you do so, they should make notes in the relevant thought bubbles in the worksheet (in their own language if necessary) to outline what they imagine. (They will have to open their eyes occasionally, though!)
- 3 Read the following, including the numbers, pausing to allow time for learners to think and make notes after each item is mentioned:

Imagine you are walking through a forest (1). ... Look around you, what is it like? Describe the forest and the path you are walking on. ... As you walk, you are joined by an animal (2). ... What kind of animal is it? What is the animal doing? ... You continue to walk, and you notice something on the ground. You pick it up. It's a keyring with a number of keys (3). ... As you walk on, you look at the keys. ... How many are there? What are they like? ... You continue to walk and you see a bear (4) by the side of the path. ... What kind of bear is it? What does it look like? What do you do when you see the bear? ... You come to a clearing in the forest. In the clearing there is a building with a wall (5) around it. What is the wall like? ... Now describe the building (6). ... You go into the building, and find yourself in a room. In the middle of the room there is a table (7). ... What shape is it? ... In the middle of the table there is a cup (8). ... What is the cup made of? ... Now you leave the building, and as you leave, you take the cup with you to fill it with water. There is water (9) outside the building. Describe it.

- 4 In their pairs, learners compare what they imagined.
- 5 Read through the key below (or give a photocopy of it to each pair). Learners interpret their partner's and their own responses.



Key

- 1 *The forest is how you see your life. Is it a dark, frightening place, or a light pleasant place?*
- 2 *The animal represents the kind of person you want or like to have as a friend.*
- 3 *The key(s) are how many close friends you like to have: just one or two, or a lot?*
- 4 *The bear shows how you feel about the opposite sex. Was your bear big and frightening, or friendly? How did you react, run away? Talk to the bear?*
- 5 *The wall around the building shows how open you are. A strong, high wall means you are a very private person. A lower wall means you are more open.*
- 6 *The building itself is how ambitious you are – a small simple building means you are happy with a simple life, a huge castle means you want to be very successful.*
- 7 *The table is conventionality. If you chose round, you're relaxed and comfortable in different situations. If you chose square or rectangular, you're more conventional and don't like strange situations. If you chose triangular, you're very unconventional and like things to be different.*
- 8 *The material the cup is made of represents how fragile and easily hurt you are. The more fragile the material, the more fragile you are. For example, china would be more fragile than plastic or metal.*
- 9 *The water shows how passionate you are. Calm water represents a calm, relaxed person. Turbulent water means you are a very passionate person.*

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1 The forest

2 The animal

3 The key(s)

4 The bear

5 The wall

6 The building

7 The table

8 The cup

9 The water