



## Observation (2) Describing and Drawing Local Areas

<b>LEVEL</b>	Intermediate to Advanced
<b>AIMS (Aspect of Pestalozzi)</b>	To teach students to observe their surroundings closely
<b>FURTHER AIMS</b>	To encourage accurate and detailed descriptive writing
<b>MATERIALS NEEDED</b>	A sheet of blank paper and a pencil for each student

*(NB: Two teachers or supervisors are required for this activity).*

### Step 1

The teacher gives each student a pencil and a blank piece of paper. The students are divided into two groups, A and B. Each student in Group A is given a number 1-15 and each student in Group B is given a number 1-15. *(NB: This is for a class strength of 30, so the number range will change for a class with more or fewer students).*

Groups A and B go outside to two different areas where there are plenty of different views of surrounding buildings or natural scenery.

Using half the piece of paper, each student writes a description of a chosen view, not stating any names of buildings or areas but describing them in detail.

### Step 2

The students reassemble in the room where the descriptions from Group A are given to Group B and vice versa, with Student 1 of Group A swapping with student 1 of Group B etc.

Without consulting the students who wrote the descriptions, each student uses the other half of the paper to draw a picture based on the written description.

### Step 3

Each student, keeping the paper with his or her own drawing, forms a pair, Student 1 of Group A with Student 1 of Group B etc.

Each pair visits both locations, with the student who did the drawing finding and showing the student who wrote the description the site the latter student had described. The students discuss the accuracy of the drawings and written descriptions.

**Pestalozzi taught his students to closely observe their surroundings. He used exercises of sense-impression and language to teach children to observe and to**

**talk about their observations, recounting all the impressions they receive from the objects surrounding them.**