ТЕОРЕТИЧЕСКИЕ ДИСЦИПЛИНЫ

Стилистика текста
(теория и практика)
Нижнева Н.Н., Девкин А.П.


ISBN

Данная книга содержит сжатое изложение основ риторического анализа текстов различных типов. Приведены аутентичные тексты, даны методические материалы по чтению, письму и дискуссии. Материалы, включенные в учебник, не только иллюстрируют широкие возможности письменной речи (журналы статьи, различные виды эссе, художественная проза), но и весьма богаты и современны по содержанию — это проблемы экологии, социологического и психологического характера, моральных ценностей в современном мире. Книга адресована студентам старших курсов с углубленным изучением английского языка.
ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Since text awareness is best developed by reading and analysing diverse types of texts, we suggest a selection of authentic materials in contemporary English, written by various authors and for different purposes. Preference was given to recently published articles and stories by British authors whose names, probably, are not familiar to you, so that you will be able to form your own opinion concerning their language and style.

So, Part 2 provides you with various materials for thorough rhetorical analysing. It is possible to master paragraph interpretation, discourse type interpretation or literary analysis. We begin with descriptive types of texts, the logical structure of which is more transparent.

DESCRIPTIVE TEXTS

Guidebook 1

Guidebooks provide excellent descriptions made by professionals. Such descriptions, though rather laconic, are usually very picturesque thanks to the rich language used by their authors.

City of Christchurch

Preview. Things to Think About

When you see or hear the word Christchurch, what comes to mind?

Have you ever read about New Zealand? If so, what can you remember about it?

If you haven’t been to New Zealand, you may have thoughts about what Pacific islands look like. Formulate your impressions and discuss them first with your partner and then with your teacher.

Preview

1. Descriptive writing usually has an underlying organisation (spatial, logical, chronological, etc.) to help the reader follow along. Look at the first sentence of
each paragraph and write down how the author organised this description of Christchurch.

2. What are the names of the places of interest in the order in which they are presented in this reading? Note that all paragraphs are numbered for convenience.

**City of Christchurch**

1. Christchurch — Its Maori name is Otautah. By the time European settlement began in the 1840s, no more than 500 Maori lived in Canterbury, as a result of fierce confrontations with the northern Maori tribes. It was with their assistance that the first European colonists received food and shelter.

2. The City of Christchurch today is New Zealand’s third largest city with over 300,000 people. It is a city of many interests, a city built for people, known as the Garden City. At its centre are the expansive Hagley Park and the Avon River. Christchurch lies on the edge of New Zealand’s largest plain, bounded to the east by the Pacific coastline and the hills of Banks Peninsula and looking inwards to the mountains of the Southern Alps.

3. This publication shows Christchurch in its many moods, the great tourist attractions, the many events and festivals, the splendid old and new buildings, the seasons, the gardens and, most of all, the people.

4. The ‘City of Christchurch’ is a stunning pictorial collection of the best we can offer together with a helpful map of the central city area and top attractions – for all to enjoy.

5. **Cathedral Square** The early British colonists dreamed of establishing a Church of England settlement and their success is most evident in Cathedral Square, the heart of Christchurch, dominated by the Christchurch Cathedral.

6. The foundation stone for the cathedral, a fine example of neo-Gothic architecture, was laid by Bishop Harper in 1864. Originally the square was called Ridley Square after a sixteenth-century English bishop who was burnt at the stake for his anti-Catholic beliefs.

7. The statue of John Robert Godley, leader of the first European settlers,
stands proudly in the centre of the square – the first statue erected in New Zealand, it was unveiled in 1867.

8. Cathedral Square is a busy pedestrian area, well known for its market days and fruit and flower vendors. Speaker’s corner attracts preachers, eccentrics, born-again arguers and the Wizard.

9. You may see the Town Crier in front of the old Chief Post Office, argue with the Wizard on women or the British Empire, play a game of chess with giant chess pieces, or view the many stalls of handicrafts and souvenirs. It is a great place to relax, unwind and meet people – both locals and visitors to Christchurch.

10. **A sense of tradition** The city today is a grid of tree-lined streets, encompassing an innovative one-way traffic system. The tight network of streets named after English episcopates is softened by the meandering River Avon and inner city parks. Old stone buildings nestle beside modern shopping malls and high-rise office blocks, and it is this combination of the new and the historical that gives Christchurch its unique character.

11. Well worth a visit are the Canterbury Provincial Government Buildings, an example of High Victorian architecture that is unsurpassed in Australasia. These magnificent buildings recall an age of grace and dignity before the advent of centralised government.

12. Nearby stands the Bridge of Remembrance, a proud monument to the soldiers of World War II. It provides a gateway to the Cashel Street pedestrian mall which features many outdoor eateries, cafes and bars.

13. **Worcester Boulevard** Worcester Boulevard is bordered in the west by Rolleston Avenue, which features attractions such as the Antigua boatsheds, the Robert McDougall Art Gallery and the Canterbury Museum.

14. Guarding the entrance to the Canterbury Museum is the statue of William Rolleston, the Superintendent of Canterbury between 1868 and 1876, who stares solemnly up Worcester Boulevard looking towards Christ Church Cathedral. The Great Hall, Arts Centre and Court Theatre are all within a short walk.

15. Across the road from the museum is the Arts Centre, formerly the site of
the University of Canterbury. The Arts Centre is a collection of neo-Gothic stone buildings that are over a century old. Now the buildings house hundreds of people engaged in cultural activities, making this the largest centre of its kind in the country.

16. **Convention Centre** The Christchurch Town Hall complex, part of the Christchurch Convention Centre, attracts hundreds of people each year. Enjoy an orchestra, a play, a ballet, a band or an art exhibition.

17. The Christchurch Symphony Orchestra regularly performs with a diverse repertoire to suit all musical tastes. Visit the main auditorium, see and hear the Reiger pipe organ with over 3000 pipes, which was officially opened in May 1997 at a cost of 1.3 million dollars.

18. Adjacent to Victoria Square you will find the Christchurch Convention Centre, which is New Zealand’s first purpose-built Convention and exhibition centre. It is connected to the Christchurch Town Hall, a world-class performing arts and cultural centre, by a covered skywalk across Kilmore Street.

19. **Christchurch — a Garden City** Christchurch is called the Garden City and no wonder – one-third of Christchurch public land is devoted to reserves and parks.

20. In the Christchurch Botanical Gardens you will find the finest single collection of exotic and indigenous plants in New Zealand. The gardens cover 30 hectares and feature broad walking tracks, attractive vistas, floral features, trees, conservatories and statues encompassed by the Avon River. The gardens always provide spectacular displays regardless of season.

21. Across the river you will find Hagley Park, which covers 161 hectares – it was declared a public reserve in 1856. Hagley Park is the most significant city park and is a major cultural and sporting focal point. This park provides spectacular scenery and is a favourite place for picnickers and joggers, surrounded by trees, daffodils, bluebells and the peaceful Avon River.

22. **Events and festivals** When you visit Christchurch you can be sure of one thing: there’s always an exciting event about to take place.
23. From the first rays of spring to the last snows of winter, Christchurch celebrates the seasons, the city and life itself in the festival city of the South Pacific.

24. The prospect of winter often means people need a few laughs. In May the popular Laugh! Comedy Festival visits Christchurch to bring some much-needed winter cheer. Hot on its tail comes another great winter event – Books & Beyond – the Christchurch Book Festival kicks off in June.

25. Children are a very important part of Christchurch and the annual TV2 KidsFest in July is an eagerly awaited winter fixture. Bookings are always essential for the vast range of child-oriented activities.

26. Art and culture are always major features of Christchurch and every two years in July the Christchurch Arts Festival is a two and a half week feast of performing, visual and applied arts events for local and visiting art buffs.

27. As fits one of New Zealand’s top ski regions, Canterbury is big on winter and in August the Montana Christchurch Winter Carnival is a popular Christchurch event with heaps of fun and winter entertainment.

28. Christchurch is one of New Zealand’s most progressive cities, but it also takes time out to celebrate its history. In October, Hoyts Heritage Week takes a look back at the city’s fascinating past.

29. As the buds come to life the city embarks on Showtime Canterbury with its exciting mix of concerts, horse racing, fashion parades, fireworks and more. Thousands of people converge on the city and the show grounds bulge at the seams for the annual Agriculture and Pastoral Show, which highlights the best of the region’s agriculture, horticulture and viticulture.

30. The Christmas season gets off to a great start when Coca Cola Christmas in the Park hits town as part of its national tour. New Year’s Eve brings the start of a new year and nearly two months of non-stop entertainment with Summer Times. Hugely popular events like the Tip Top Teddy Bears’ picnic, CD Summer Rock, Candlelight Opera and Southpower Classical Sparks make this one of New Zealand’s largest and most successful free festivals.
31. A great feature of Christchurch is the amount of first-class street entertainment you can catch at any time of the year. It all comes to a head in January when the Instant Kiwi World Buskers Festival takes to the city streets.

32. Fancy a beer, some music and something to eat? There’s no better time to enjoy some of New Zealand’s favourite summer fare than the annual Blues, Brews and Barbecues weekend, each January in Hagley park. If wine is more your thing you can check out the ANZ Wine and Food Festival that follows in February.

33. Christchurch is also New Zealand’s most romantic city and celebrates the fact each February with the Clear Festival of Romance. You couldn’t have romance without flowers though, or flowers without gardens, February is also the time when the city comes alive with the glorious Garden City Festival of Flowers.

34. For those who fancy a little more adrenaline in life, there’s always Adventure Canterbury in March, a two-week celebration of life’s more hair-raising leisure pursuits.

35. Add to this a continuous programme of concerts, plays, musicals, sporting fixtures and other events and you have Christchurch – the one-stop event shop – where there’s always something happening. *(Christchurch (guidebook) — NZ, 1998)*

**Glossary**

*adjacent* — close to; lying near

*advent* — the coming or arrival, especially of something extremely important

*attraction* — a person, place, thing, or event that is intended to attract

*bound* — to set a limit to; to confine

*check out* — to make an examination or investigation; inquire

*cheer* — lightness of spirits or mood; gaiety or joy

*diverse* — differing one from another

*encompass* — to enclose; envelop or include

*fare* — 1) a transportation charge, as for a bus;

2) food and drink; diet
*feast* — 1) a large, elaborately prepared meal, usually for many persons and often accompanied by entertainment; a banquet; 2) something giving great pleasure

*fixture* — one that is invariably present in and long associated with a place

*focal point* — a centre of interest or activity

*grace* — a sense of charm, fitness or propriety

*grid* — a pattern of regularly spaced horizontal and vertical lines forming squares on a map, a chart, etc.

*indigenous* — native

*mall* — a large, often enclosed shopping complex containing various stores, businesses, and restaurants usually accessible by common passageways
Maori — indigenous people of New Zealand, of Polynesian-Melanesian descent

depend — to follow a winding and turning course

nestle — to settle snugly and comfortably

ship — a small structure, either free-standing or attached to a larger structure, serving for storage or shelter

shelter — something that provides cover or protection, as from the weather

stake — a vertical post to which an offender is bound for execution by burning

stunning — impressive, surprising

surpass — to be or go beyond, as in degree or quality; exceed

stall — 1) A compartment for one domestic animal in a barn or shed. 2) A booth, cubicle, or stand used by a vendor, as at a market

unwind — to become free of nervous tension; relax

vendor — one that sells or vends

vista — a distant view or prospect, especially one seen through an opening, as between rows of buildings or trees

Close Reading:
1. Pick out words giving local flavour.

2. What are the names of the places of interest in the order in which they are presented in this reading?

3. What are the principles of organising the sections of the text? (spatial, chronological, causal, or other)? What sub-types of description have been used, and in which sections of the text?

4. Descriptive writing can be more realistic — with the use of words that appeal to the reader’s sense of touch, smell, taste, and hearing. Skim through the description of the city and make a list of the phrases that appeal to sensory
perception.

5. Look through the text again and find words that appeal to other senses.

6. Scrutinise each part of the text and find metaphors used for creating rich images.

5. Explain why in many parts of the text the author resorts to the use of present tense.

6. Read the introductory and the concluding paragraphs again. Extract the sentences in which the theme and the message of the text are conveyed most conspicuously.

D. Critical Reading:

1. Did the text persuade you that Christchurch is worth visiting?

2. Do you agree with the author that Christchurch is ‘an event shop’ where there’s always something happening? Provide reasons for your agreement or disagreement.

3. If you were to write a description of your town, which of the characteristics of the text would you follow as an example?