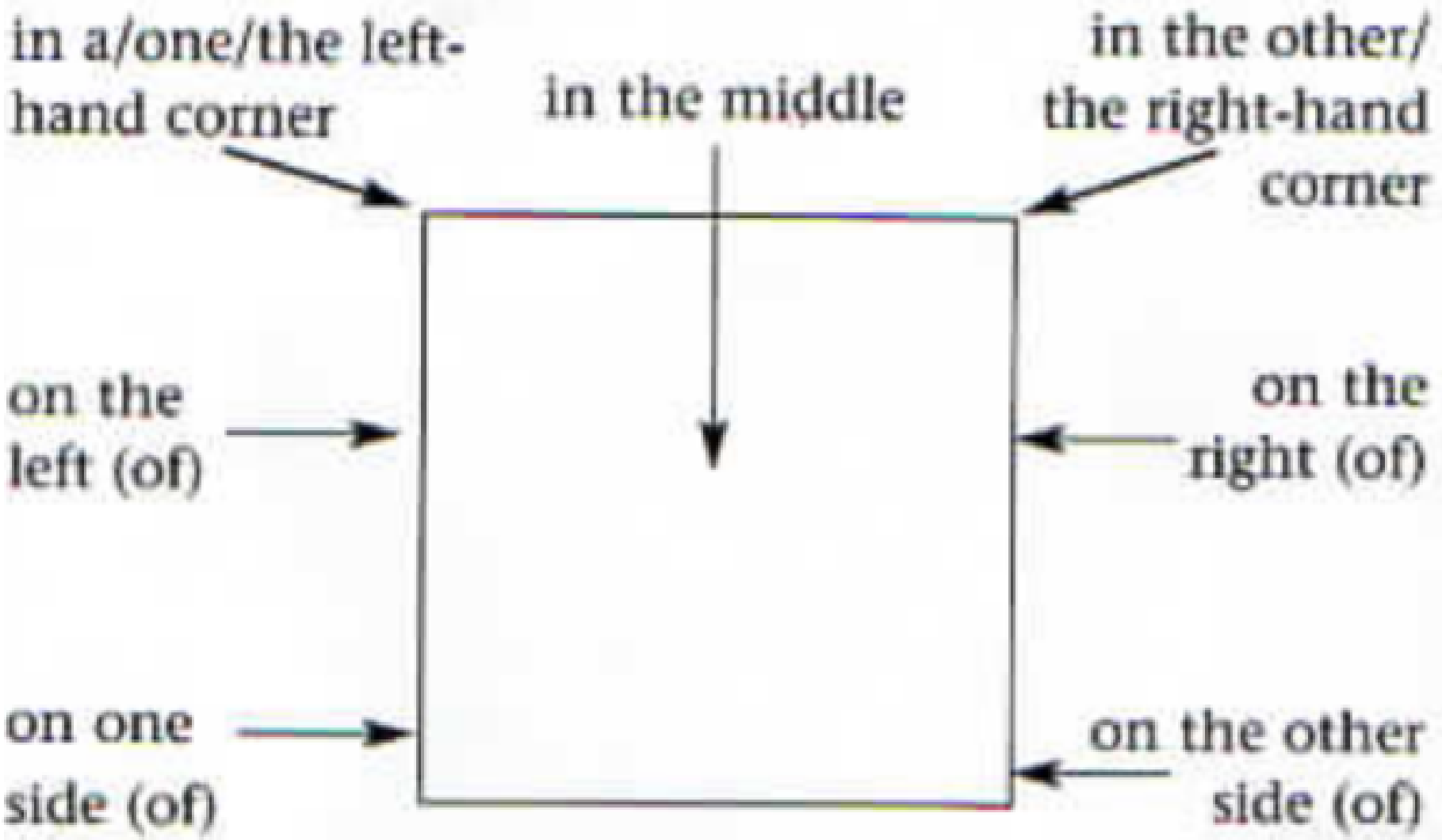
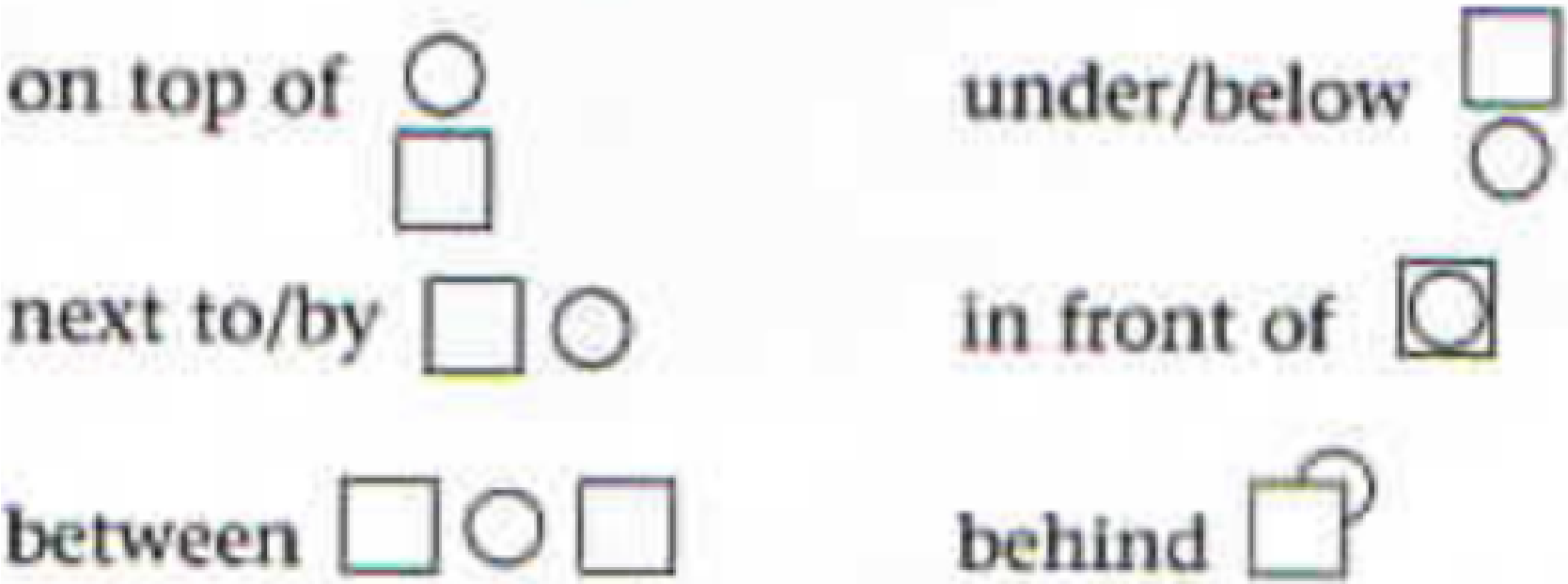
DESCRIBING PICTURES in the SPEAKING TEST

DESCRIBING THE POSITION OF THINGS IN A PHOTO


in a/one/the left-hand corner
in the middle
in the other/ the right-hand corner
on the left (of)
on the right (of)
on one side (of)
on the other side (of)


on top of
under/below
next to/by
in front of
between
behind

In the background, there are some mountains ...

In the foreground, I can see some people ...

The person in front is wearing ...

There is another person behind the woman in the black jacket.

On the right of the photograph, I can see a restaurant.

The bed is next to the window.

There's a lamp by the bed.

SAYING WHERE PEOPLE ARE

They're indoors/outdoors.
They're in the street/in a square.
They're at the beach.
They're in a park/the countryside.

They're in a shop/cinema/theatre/café/hotel, etc.
They're on a bus/train/plane, etc.
They're at home/school/work, etc.

DESCRIBING PEOPLE

He's (rather/quite) tall/short/fat/thin.
She's/He's got fair/dark skin.
She's got dark/fair/short/long hair.
She's/He's wearing glasses/jeans and a T-shirt.

DESCRIBING BUILDINGS AND PLACES

It's a modern/very old building.
There are a lot of people in the street.
The square looks (quite) crowded.

MAKING GUESSES

They look/seem (very/quite) happy/sad.
They look/seem (a bit) worried/tired/bored (to me).
I think they're happy because they're both smiling.
It looks as if they're having a good time.
I'm not sure, but it looks like France to me, because of the buildings.
I'm not sure what it is, but it might/could be a/an ...
They could be friends or brothers.
He's probably a tour guide because ...
Maybe they are lost in the mountains.
Perhaps they have lost their way.

Are you ready to start?

Say:

What/Who you can see in the picture and where (in the foreground, background, top, bottom…)
What they are doing
What they look like
What they are wearing (they are wearing warm clothes, as it is winter…)
Where and when it is and why you think so (it is indoors/outdoors in winter or summer…)
What their feelings are and why you think so (the boy looks happy, because he is smiling…)
Giving personal opinions: I think/suppose, they had better…; Most people…; I can't see very well, but it probably means that…, dominant colours of the picture/dominant atmosphere of the picture…
Suggestions: please, use the present continuous to describe a picture and a lot of adverbs (frequency adverbs, but even probably, rather, quite, definitively, absolutely, remarkably…) in order to give quality to your description.