Material name: Describing people’s physical appearance 1
Author: Guadalupe Tenorio Sánchez
Date: May 27th, 2015
How can we describe people’s physical appearance?

How can we ask for people’s physical appearance?
Identify the grammar rules to describe physical appearance of people; as well as how to ask for it. This is an A1 level competence, according to the Common European Framework of Reference for languages


Key words:

Is, are, am, tall, short, chubby, slim, beautiful, handsome.
• How to ask for physical appearance.
• How to describe physical appearance. Vocabulary.
• How to describe physical appearance. Affirmative sentences.
• How to describe physical appearance. Negative sentences.
• How to ask for physical appearance. Interrogative sentences.
• Conclusion
• References
When you want to ask about people’s physical appearance you can ask:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What</th>
<th><strong>do</strong></th>
<th>I you we they</th>
<th>look like?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>does</strong></td>
<td>she he</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the answer you can use the verb *TO BE*. Check the following examples.
### How to describe physical appearance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>tall - short</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>chubby - slim</td>
<td>Use beautiful for females and handsome for males.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>beautiful* - handsome*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Affirmative sentences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Physical Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>am</td>
<td>short and chubby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He, She</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>short and chubby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We, You</td>
<td>Are</td>
<td>short and chubby.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How to describe physical appearance**

1. Affirmative sentences
### Negative sentences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Not</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>am</td>
<td>not</td>
<td>short. chubby. short and chubby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He/She</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>not</td>
<td>short. chubby. short and chubby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We/You/They</td>
<td>Are</td>
<td>not</td>
<td>short. chubby. short and chubby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Verb</td>
<td>Adjjectives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Am</strong></td>
<td>I</td>
<td>short? chubby? short and chubby?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Is</strong></td>
<td>he/she</td>
<td>short? chubby? short and chubby?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Are</strong></td>
<td>we/you/they</td>
<td>short? chubby? short and chubby?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When you want to request people’s physical appearance, you can ask:

- What **do** I / they / we / you look like?
- What **does** he / she look like?

When you want to describe people’s physical appearance you can use the verb **TO BE** and say:

- I **am** short.
- She / he **is** chubby
- We / you / they **are** short and chubby.
• English Grammar Online. The fun way to learn English. Personal description.

• LearnEnglish. A lesson a day. Personality Adjectives – «What is she like?»

Images:

• Figure 1. Message about physical appearance [image] (2015) Retrieved from
  people+&oq=describing+people+&gs_l=img.3..0l10.1158.4049.0.4667.20.14.1.3.3.0.265.1945.0j8j3.11.0....0...1ac.1.64.img..
  5.15.1972.JAbq-PpG348#hl=en&tbm=isch&q=quotes+about+physical+appearance&imgrc=Srdx4d9gUoy3uM%253A
  %3BhZkuyDLJZh-hM%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.imagesbuddy.com%252Fimages%252F167%252Fbe-pretty-on-the-inside-
  too-dont-just-worry-about-your-physical-appearance-appearance-quote.jpg%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.imagesbuddy.com
  %252Fimg%252Fappearance-quotes%252Fappearance-quotes%252Fpage%252F28%252F28%252F3B500%3B333

• Figure 2. Tall and short [image] (2015) Retrieved from
  people+&oq=describing+people+&gs_l=img.3..0l10.1158.4049.0.4667.20.14.1.3.3.0.265.1945.0j8j3.11.0....0...1ac.1.64.img..
  5.15.1972.JAbq-PpG348#q=all+and+tall&hl=en&tbm=isch&tbs=itp:clipart&imgrc=dPmE3li37JtFCM%253A%3Bs%3-mVbqvnp4wGM%3Bhttp%253A%252F
  %252F3.bp.blogspot.com%252F_e5CENKp5eYU%252F5_w8T6VN82I%252FAAAAAAAABgg%252Fwn_5SDCKjR8%252Fs1600%252Ftall
  %252F26short.gif%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.howtogrowtallerguide.org%252Fguys-am-i-too-tall-and-skinny%252F
  %3B744%3B1069
- **Figure 3. chubby and slim [image] (2015) Retrieved from** https://www.google.com.mx/search?hl=en&authuser=0&site=imghp&tbm=isch&source=hp&biw=1366&bih=599&q=describing+people&oq=describing+people&gs_l=img.3..0l10.1158.4049.0.4667.20.14.1.3.3.0.265.1945.0j8j3.11.0....0...1ac.1.64.img..5.15.1972.JAbq-PpG348#q=slender+and+chubby+boy&hl=en&tbs=itp:clipart,ic:gray&tbm=isch&q=beauDful+and+handsome&imgrc=VY8RAMVtYPVugM%253A%2Bfu-5-tP1NchIKM%253Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fretroclipart.co%252F1024%252Fvector-clipart-of-a-black-and-white-retro-woman-watching-a-handsome-man-walk-by-by-bestvector-5284.jpg%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fretroclipart.co%252Fdesigns%252Fretro-black-and-white%253B1024%3B1044

- **Figure 4. Beautiful and handsome [image] (2015) Retrieved from** https://www.google.com.mx/search?hl=en&authuser=0&site=imghp&tbm=isch&source=hp&biw=1366&bih=599&q=describing+people&oq=describing+people&gs_l=img.3..0l10.1158.4049.0.4667.20.14.1.3.3.0.265.1945.0j8j3.11.0....0...1ac.1.64.img..5.15.1972.JAbq-PpG348#hl=en&tbs=itp:clipart%2Cic:gray&tbm=isch&q=beauDful+and+handsome
Thank you!
Material desarrollado en la Dirección de Superación Académica

D. R. Sistema Ciencia Garza Educativa
Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo
Abasolo No. 600, Colonia Centro, Pachuca de Soto, Hidalgo. C. P. 42000

“Se prohíbe la reproducción total o parcial de este documento por cualquier medio sin previo y expreso consentimiento por escrito de la UAEH”