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Für den Tageslichtprojektor:

Zu unserer Folienbeilage

Friederike Klippel
Fairfield Town Plan

One of the basic skills taught in foreign language classes is that of giving and understanding directions. This skill is normally first tackled at elementary level, but it needs to be revised at later stages in the course. The town plan given on the transparency may be used for this kind of revision from the end of the fourth year of English upwards. However, giving and understanding directions is not the only skill which may be practised with this transparency. Listening and reading comprehension as well as transferring information from a text to the transparency are also involved.

The transparency shows the town plan of an imaginary English town called Fairfield. A number of buildings are marked in the plan but they are not named. Information about these buildings is given in two texts, one a tourist brochure about Fairfield, describing a walk around the old part of town, the other a private letter written by a girl called Nicola. Nicola used to live in Fairfield more than ten years ago, and she has come back for a visit. In her letter she tells her sister Sue how much has changed in the meantime.

Teaching hints

The first task is to complete the transparency. This may easily be done as group work. Each group needs a paper copy of the transparency and one of either text, so that half of the groups have the letter, the other half the tourist brochure. Groups of four to five pupils are probably best. Each group chooses a "reader", that is someone whose pronunciation is rather good and who can read clearly. The reader receives the text, the rest of the group look at the

Dear Sue,

I've been in Fairfield for two days now and I am still discovering new things every minute. A lot has changed in the ten years since we moved away. Well, the old town is still very much the same, although there are some new boutiques and shoe shops opposite St. Mary's church in the High Street. And the High Street has been closed to traffic, so you can take a leisurely stroll from one end at The Crescent to the Daffodil Cafe in River Walk at the other.

The old bingo hall near the bridge in London Road has been turned into a modern cinema, and the bus station in Station Road has been modernized as well. If it hadn't been painted in a horrible mixture of green and pink it would look a lot better though. But my old school in Princess Street still looks as dark and damp as ever. There's even a new department store in The Crescent. I think you would get a real shock if you could see what they've done to the fields and gardens on the other side of the river. Now there's a sports stadium, a big modern gymnasium and a huge outdoor swimming pool. I wish we'd had that when we lived there.

I've taken some photos of our house, the school, and the town centre, so you'll be able to see for yourself. I am going to take this letter to the post office now - it's in London Road these days, all glass and steel and much bigger - so you should have the letter before the weekend.

Love

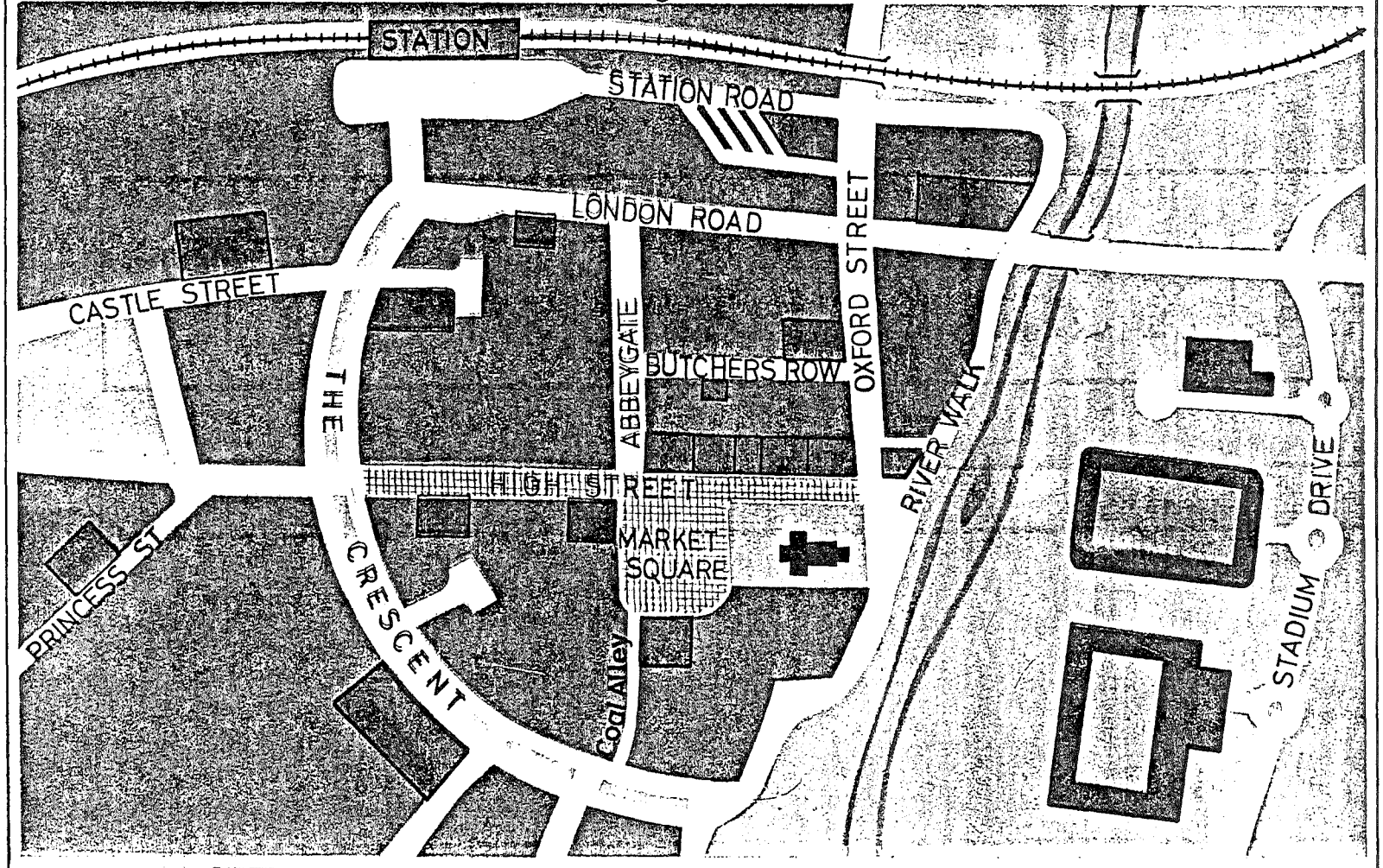
Nicola

Fairfield Historic Town Walk

Fairfield has a long history. It has been a market town for more than 800 years. Follow our route for a walk around the old part of town and you will see some of the interesting historic buildings in Fairfield.

START at the TOURIST OFFICE in the pedestrian precinct at the corner of High Street and Market Square. To your right you see a very narrow lane, Coal Alley, that leads from Market Square past one wall of the TOWN HALL to The Crescent. The TOWN HALL dates from the sixteenth century and has a famous staircase. On the other side of Market Square facing you, there is SAINT MARY'S CHURCH with its fine stained glass windows. When you have had a look at SAINT MARY'S walk down Abbeygate till you come to Butchers Row on your right. A long time ago all the butchers' shops were in this street. Now there is only one left. But three of the old shops have been turned into the TOWN MUSEUM at the corner of Oxford Street. The museum shows many things from the long history of Fairfield. Follow Oxford Street to London Road. On your right is the OLD BRIDGE across the river, but you should turn left along London Road till you get to The Crescent. This is where the old town wall used to be before it was destroyed 250 years ago. Look to your right along Castle Street and you will see the Castle in the distance, just behind the roof of the FIRE STATION on the right side of Castle Street. Now turn back to The Crescent. Opposite Castle Street there is a beautiful courtyard; but you will not be able to look at it more closely because it belongs to the POLICE STATION at the corner. When you reach High Street again you should visit the PUB there, the HORSE AND DRAGON, which is nearly as old as Fairfield itself. A few steps further along High Street and you are back where you started.

FAIRFIELD



town plan with pen in hand. The reader then reads out the text and the others try to locate the things mentioned. They write down the names of the buildings. As the letter and the tourist brochure refer to different buildings and sights, the results will not be the same in all the groups. All the pieces of information collected in this way are then transferred to the transparency. If you write on an overlay transparency or use water soluble pens then the transparency will be kept usable for teaching in other classes. With the completed town plan you can move on to other language activities.

1. Walks

The teacher or a pupil prepares the description of a walk through Fairfield. They tell the class step by step, but rather quickly, the route they took. The class follow the walk on the transparency and they have to note down as many sights as possible that were passed on this walk.

2. An afternoon in Fairfield

This is a problem solving task which is best done in pairs. The teacher sketches the problem: *You arrive by bus at Fairfield bus station at 2 p.m. There are a number of things you have to do before you catch your bus home at 5 p.m. Think of the order in which you will do everything and write down the route which you have to walk. Here is the list: collect winter coats from the cleaners in Abbeygate, hand in application form to Town Hall before 3 p.m., take parcel to the post office, buy a pair of trainers, meet Mrs Lucas after school (4.15) at the school gates to return her cassettes.* The pairs work together to decide in which order they would tackle their tasks. Then they write down the route they would have to walk. They should be able to give reasons for their decisions. The different solutions are compared in class.