

Pip's Magnificent Word Collection

Learning objective: To identify spelling patterns, improve vocabulary, and demonstrate comprehension of a non-fiction text.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below in full sentences. Pay close attention to the spelling patterns mentioned.

Pip the caterpillar is an expert at collecting words. While other insects look for leaves, Pip searches for interesting spellings. He keeps his treasures in a hollow oak tree. Pip has noticed that many words follow clever patterns. For example, when adding a suffix like '-tion' or '-cian' to a root word, the sound often stays the same, even if the spelling changes. Pip finds that the 'i' before 'e' rule is a tricky puzzle, but he remembers it by thinking of his friend, the busy bee. Sometimes, words have a silent letter, like the 'k' in 'knee' or the 'w' in 'write'. These hidden letters are like secret codes waiting to be cracked. Pip also loves words that sound the same but are spelt differently, known as homophones. He carefully organises his collection by sound and letter patterns to make them easier to remember. By practising these rules every day, Pip has become the best speller in the forest. He believes that every word has a story, and learning to spell them correctly is the best way to tell it.

Word bank: suffix · prefix · vowel · consonant · syllable · spelling · pattern

1. According to the text, where does Pip keep his word collection? (2 marks)

2. What does the text call words that sound the same but are spelt differently? (2 marks)

3. Why might Pip find silent letters, like the 'k' in 'knee', interesting? (2 marks)

4. How does Pip show that he is a very organised character? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Pip is a good role model for someone learning to spell? Explain why using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw Pip the caterpillar inside his hollow oak tree library, surrounded by shelves of scrolls and books with interesting words written on them.



Extension challenge: Choose five words from the passage that you find tricky to spell. Research their meanings and use each one in a creative sentence of your own.