

Expanding Our Vocabulary with Max and Pip

Learning objective: To understand and use synonyms and antonyms to improve the quality of writing.

Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar are trying to make their stories more exciting! Help them by replacing boring words with more descriptive ones and finding opposites to create contrast.

Word bank: enormous · exhausted · gloomy · shimmering · cautiously · ancient

1. Pip has used the word 'big' too many times in her story. Choose the best synonym from the word bank to replace 'big' in this sentence: 'The whale was a big creature.' (1 mark)

2. Max is writing about a tired monkey. Which word from the word bank is a synonym for 'tired'? (1 mark)

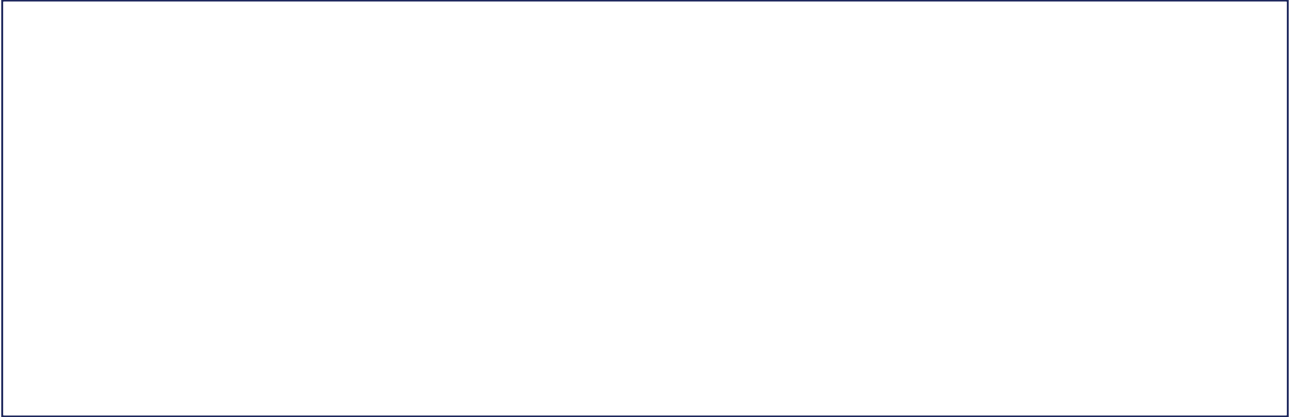
3. An antonym is a word that means the opposite. What is the antonym of 'bright' from the word bank? (1 mark)

4. Read this sentence: 'The fox walked quickly through the woods.' Replace the word 'quickly' with a more descriptive adverb of your own to change the mood of the sentence. (2 marks)

5. Pip found the word 'old' in her book. Which word from the word bank is a more sophisticated synonym for 'old' when describing a building or a treasure? (1 mark)

6. Write a short sentence using the word 'shimmering' to describe something you might find in the ocean. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the caterpillar reading a giant dictionary filled with shimmering, colourful words!



Extension challenge: Can you think of three different synonyms for the word 'happy'? Write them down and arrange them from the least intense to the most intense feeling.