

The Festival of Lights: Diwali Creative Narrative Challenge

Learning objective: To use descriptive language and sensory details to recount the significance of Diwali, focusing on the themes of light, kindness, and new beginnings.

Imagine you are joining Pip the bookworm and Ellie the elephant as they visit a family celebrating Diwali. Use the word bank to help you write a descriptive paragraph for each of the four stages of the festival. You must use at least two adjectives and one sensory detail (sight, sound, smell, or touch) in every paragraph.

Word bank: dazzling · diya · vibrant · fragrant · festive · rhythmic · glistening · harmonious · radiant · abundance

1. Paragraph 1: Describe the preparation of the home. How does the family make the house look welcoming for visitors? (2 marks)

2. Paragraph 2: Describe the rangoli patterns on the floor. Explain why these patterns are important to the celebration. (2 marks)

3. Paragraph 3: Describe the lighting of the clay diyas. What do these lights symbolise in the story of Diwali? (2 marks)

4. Paragraph 4: Describe the feast. Compare the feeling of sharing a meal with friends to the feeling of being alone. (2 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Why is Diwali often called the 'Festival of Lights' rather than just a celebration of food or gifts? (3 marks)

6. What might happen if the lights were not lit during the darkest night of the month? Explain the significance of the light overcoming the dark. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a traditional rangoli pattern in the centre of your page. Around the pattern, draw four diyas, ensuring the flames are bright and colourful, reflecting the light onto the surrounding floor.



Extension challenge: Write a short, poetic verse about 'inner light' to share with a friend. Then, research how much it might cost to buy a set of 12 clay diyas for £4.50 and a bag of coloured powder for £2.25. If you have £10.00, how much change would you receive? Explain your mathematical reasoning.