

Diwali: The Festival of Lights

Learning objective: To write a descriptive narrative about the story of Diwali, focusing on the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil.

Use the prompts below to structure your story. Think about how the characters feel, use rich adjectives to describe the setting, and ensure your sentences flow using the connectives in the word bank.

The night air was still, yet the village of Ayodhya was alive with a golden, flickering glow that chased away the deepest shadows.

Word bank: radiant · glistening · triumphantly · amidst · furthermore · consequently · nevertheless · illuminated · symbolic · courageous

1. Introduction: Describe the atmosphere in the kingdom before the lights were lit. How can you show the reader that the people were waiting for someone special to return? Start with: 'As the sun dipped below the horizon, the villagers felt...' (2 marks)

2. The Journey: Explain why the hero's journey home was difficult. What obstacles did they face, and how did they show courage? Start with: 'The path was long and treacherous, however...' (2 marks)

3. The Celebration: Describe the moment the diyas (oil lamps) were lit. Use your senses—what did the light look like and how did it change the feeling of the village? Start with: 'Suddenly, a single flame ignited, and soon...' (2 marks)

4. The Meaning: Explain why this night is so important to the people. Why is the victory of light over darkness a powerful message? Start with: 'This celebration serves as a reminder that...' (2 marks)

5. Compare and Contrast: How does the mood of the village change from the beginning of your story to the end? Justify your answer by referring to the symbols of light. (3 marks)

6. Critical Thinking: What might happen if the people had forgotten to light their lamps? Explain the impact this would have on the story's theme. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter living in the kingdom of Ayodhya. Write a short newspaper report (100 words) describing the scene of the homecoming. Use formal language and include at least two quotes from the villagers.