

Year 4 English Assessment: Mastering Fronted Adverbials

Learning objective: To identify, punctuate, and use fronted adverbials to improve sentence structure and create effect in writing.

Read each question carefully. Remember that a fronted adverbial is a word or phrase at the beginning of a sentence that describes how, when, or where an action takes place. Always use a comma after your fronted adverbial.

Pip the caterpillar crawled along the leaf. She looked for a snack. The forest was very peaceful. She spotted a juicy green leaf and started to munch. It was going to be a wonderful day.

Word bank: Quietly · In the distance · Without warning · Every Tuesday · Beneath the surface · Happily · During the storm

1. Identify the fronted adverbial in this sentence: 'Without warning, the rain began to pour.'
(1 mark)

2. Add a comma in the correct place in this sentence: 'During the long night the owl watched from the tree.' (1 mark)

3. Choose a fronted adverbial from the word bank to complete this sentence: '_____ Max counted his pile of golden acorns.' (2 marks)

4. Rewrite this sentence by moving the adverbial to the front: 'Nova stared at the bright stars silently.' (Remember your comma!) (3 marks)

5. Explain why we use a comma after a fronted adverbial. Why is it important for the reader?
(3 marks)

6. Change the following sentences to include a fronted adverbial of your own choice to describe when or where the action happens: 1. Ellie remembered her favourite story. 2. Zara painted a colourful pattern. (4 marks)

7. Write a short paragraph (3–5 sentences) about Finn the dolphin exploring the ocean. You must include at least two different fronted adverbials to describe his movements. (5 marks)

8. Rewrite the passage about Pip provided at the top of the page. Add at least three fronted adverbials to make the story more interesting and descriptive. (6 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the caterpillar exploring a garden. Label your drawing with a sentence that uses a fronted adverbial, such as 'Slowly, Pip climbed the tall sunflower.'



Extension challenge: Total: /25