

Mastering Paragraphs with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To organise paragraphs around a theme and use fronted adverbials to improve flow.

Read the story of Pip's Great Library Adventure. Then, complete the questions below, ensuring you use your best handwriting and careful punctuation.

Pip the caterpillar sat atop a towering stack of ancient encyclopaedias. He adjusted his tiny spectacles and sighed with delight. His mission today was to reorganise the library's fiction section. First, he moved the adventure stories to the bottom shelf. He felt it was important for the brave tales to hold up the rest of the collection.

Suddenly, a gust of wind blew through the open window, scattering Pip's carefully sorted index cards across the floor. Pip did not panic. With a determined wiggle, he began to gather the cards. He knew that order was the secret to a happy library. By lunchtime, every card was back in its rightful place, and Pip felt as proud as a lion. He crawled towards his favourite nook, ready to start a new book.

Word bank: Chronological · Sub-theme · Topic sentence · Transition · Flow · Narrative · Cohesion

1. Identify the topic sentence in the first paragraph. Why is this sentence important for the structure of the paragraph? (2 marks)

2. The passage is divided into two paragraphs. Explain why the author chose to start a new paragraph after the first section. (2 marks)

3. Find a fronted adverbial used in the second paragraph. Rewrite the sentence using a different fronted adverbial that keeps the same meaning. (2 marks)

4. Compare the focus of the first paragraph to the focus of the second paragraph. How do they work together to tell the story? (3 marks)

5. Justify why it would be confusing for a reader if the sentences in this passage were mixed up in a random order. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing Pip the caterpillar inside a magical library, surrounded by shelves that are perfectly organised into different sections.



Extension challenge: Imagine Pip discovers a secret room in the library. Write two new paragraphs describing this room. Ensure your first paragraph focuses on the appearance of the room, and your second paragraph focuses on what Pip decides to do inside it. Use at least two fronted adverbials.