A Winter Wish: Christmas Story Assessment

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of narrative structure, character feelings, and descriptive language within a Christmas-themed story.

Read the story provided below carefully. Answer the questions that follow, using full sentences where required. Check your spelling and punctuation.

The snow fell softly over the forest, turning the trees into sparkling statues. Leo the lion was busy preparing for the forest Christmas feast. He wanted everything to be perfect. He found a beautiful, shiny star to place on top of the community tree. As he reached up, he heard a tiny shivering sound. It was a small hedgehog, cold and without a present. Leo felt a warm glow in his heart. He took his own woolly scarf and wrapped it gently around the hedgehog. 'The best gift is kindness,' Leo whispered. Together, they finished decorating the tree, and the forest animals gathered round to share a meal of roasted chestnuts and sweet berries. It was the most magical Christmas the forest had ever known.

Word bank: festive · sparkling · generosity · twinkling · kindness · magical · delighted · wintery

1. Where does the story take place and what is the weather like? (2 marks)

2. Why was Leo the lion busy at the start of the story? (2 marks)

3. Find two adjectives in the text used to describe the appearance of the trees or the star. (2 marks)

4. How did Leo help the hedgehog? Use evidence from the text. (3 marks)

5. Why does Leo say, 'The best gift is kindness'? Explain what he means. (4 marks)

6. Write a new ending to the story. What happened after the animals finished their meal? (Use at least 50 words). (7 marks)

7. If Leo wanted to buy a special gift for the hedgehog that cost £4.50, and he had a £5 note, how much change would he receive? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Leo the lion and the hedgehog standing together by the decorated Christmas tree in the snowy forest.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a short poem about the winter forest using three words from the word bank.