

Mastering Paragraphs with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To understand how to organise writing into paragraphs around a theme and use fronted adverbials to link ideas.

Read the short story below about Pip the Bookworm's adventure. Use it to answer the 10 questions that follow. Good luck, word explorers!

Pip the Bookworm was hunting for a new story in the old library. He crawled over a dusty shelf, his tiny feet tickling the spines of colourful books. Suddenly, he spotted a golden shimmer behind a dictionary. It was a secret map leading to the Lost Library of Legends. Pip's heart raced with excitement as he unrolled the parchment. He realised his adventure was only just beginning. With a steady breath, he packed his satchel and prepared to set off into the unknown.

Word bank: Paragraph · Theme · Structure · Topic sentence · Cohesion · Punctuation · Dialogue · Sequence

1. 1. What is the main purpose of a paragraph? A) To make the page look pretty B) To group related ideas together* C) To provide space for pictures D) To hide spelling mistakes (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: You should start a new paragraph every time you change the time, place, or character in a story. (1 mark)

3. 3. Which of these is the best 'topic sentence' to start a new paragraph about Pip packing his bag? A) The library was very quiet. B) Pip needed to prepare his equipment for the long journey.* C) The map was made of paper. D) Blue is his favourite colour. (1 mark)

4. 4. If Pip met a new character, why would you start a new paragraph? (1 word) (1 mark)

5. 5. Which word describes how well sentences flow together within a paragraph? A) Chaos B) Cohesion* C) Confusion D) Collection (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: Paragraphs are only used in fiction stories and never in non-fiction reports. (1 mark)

7. 7. What is the first sentence of a paragraph, which introduces the main idea, commonly called? A) A title B) A topic sentence* C) A closing statement D) An adverbial (1 mark)

8. 8. When writing dialogue between two characters, what should you do? A) Keep it in the same paragraph B) Start a new paragraph for every speaker* C) Delete all punctuation D) Ignore the characters (1 mark)

9. 9. How many paragraphs are in the provided passage about Pip? (1 word) (1 mark)

10. 10. Why might a writer use a short, one-sentence paragraph in a story? A) Because they are lazy B) To create a dramatic effect or emphasis* C) To save ink D) To confuse the reader (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Pip the Bookworm standing at the entrance of the Lost Library of Legends, holding his map. Add a speech bubble showing Pip feeling excited about his journey.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why it is important to use paragraphs when writing a long explanation text about history. 2. Compare and contrast how paragraphs look in a fast-paced action story versus a slow, descriptive poem. 3. Justify your answer: Why is 'cohesion' the most important element of a well-structured paragraph? 4. What might happen to a reader's understanding if a writer never used paragraphs? 5. Write a short paragraph describing what Pip finds inside the Lost Library. 6. Challenge: Rewrite your paragraph from question 5, but start it with a fronted adverbial of time (e.g., 'Moments later...').