

Mastering Paragraphs with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To understand how to organise ideas into paragraphs using topic sentences and cohesive devices.

Read the story below about Pip the Bookworm. Notice how each paragraph focuses on a different part of his day. Then, answer the questions to show your understanding of how paragraphs help organise writing.

Pip the bookworm adjusted his tiny spectacles as he began his morning routine. His favourite spot to read was high up in the old oak tree, where the leaves provided a perfect green canopy. He spent hours there, carefully turning pages with his many small feet, lost in the magical worlds of adventure and mystery.

By midday, Pip felt his tummy rumble, reminding him that even a bookworm needs a break. He scurried down the bark and crawled toward the meadow to find a snack. He loved munching on the juicy, crisp edges of fallen leaves, which he thought tasted much better than any shop-bought vegetable.

As the sun began to set, painting the sky in shades of orange and violet, Pip returned to his cosy hollow. He pulled a soft blanket made of moss over his shoulders and opened his diary. Writing down the new words he had discovered that day was the perfect way to end his evening before drifting off into a peaceful sleep.

Word bank: paragraph · topic sentence · cohesive devices · narrative · sequencing · structure

1. Identify the topic sentence of the second paragraph. What is the main theme of this paragraph? (2 marks)

2. Why has the author started a new paragraph when Pip moves from the tree to the meadow? (2 marks)

3. List two 'cohesive devices' or time-related words used in the passage to help the reader follow the sequence of events. (2 marks)

4. If Pip decided to go for a swim in the pond after his snack, where would you insert a new paragraph? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

5. Summarise the purpose of the final paragraph in your own words. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the bookworm in his favourite spot in the oak tree. Include details like his spectacles and the book he is reading.



Extension challenge: Write a short fourth paragraph for the story, describing a dream Pip has after he falls asleep in his hollow. Remember to use a clear topic sentence to introduce the dream.