

A Report on the Remarkable Oak Tree

Learning objective: To identify key features of a non-chronological report and retrieve information from a text.

Read the report below about an ancient oak tree, then answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

Nova the barn owl has been conducting an observation on the Great Oak, a magnificent tree located in the centre of the woodland. The Great Oak serves as a vital habitat for hundreds of different species. Its expansive canopy provides shelter for nesting birds, while the deep crevices in its bark are home to various insects and spiders. Scientific studies show that an oak tree can support more life than any other native tree species in the UK. During the spring, the tree produces green catkins and small, serrated leaves. By autumn, these transform into golden-brown foliage and acorns, which provide essential food for squirrels and jays. Protecting trees like the Great Oak is crucial for maintaining our local ecosystem. Recent surveys indicate that the tree is over two hundred years old, yet it remains healthy and strong. Because of its size and age, it is considered a 'veteran tree'. Nova suggests that by leaving fallen logs near the base, we can encourage even more biodiversity in our forest.

Word bank: habitat · ecosystem · biodiversity · canopy · observation · non-chronological

1. According to the report, what are two types of creatures that find shelter in the Great Oak? (2 marks)

2. What do the tree's leaves transform into by the time autumn arrives? (2 marks)

3. Why does Nova describe the Great Oak as a 'vital habitat'? (3 marks)

4. What might happen to the local wildlife if the Great Oak were to be removed? (3 marks)

5. Do you agree with Nova's suggestion to leave fallen logs near the base of the tree? Explain your reasoning using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of the Great Oak tree, labelling the canopy, the trunk, and the creatures Nova mentioned in her report.



Extension challenge: Research one other native UK tree and write a short, one-paragraph report using at least two subheadings.