Pip’s Vocabulary Vault: Elevating Your Language

Learning objective: To improve writing quality by replacing common, 'tired' verbs and adjectives with precise, ambitious vocabulary.

Pip the bookworm has collected a list of 'tired' words that appear too often in stories. Your task is to visit the Vocabulary Vault below. For each tired word, select a more vivid, powerful synonym from the word bank that fits the context of the sentence. Then, explain why your chosen word makes the sentence more impactful for the reader.

Word bank: Exhilarating · Meticulous · Luminous · Gallop · Devour · Trudge · Glisten · Stupendous

1. Replace the word 'eat' in this sentence: 'The hungry lion decided to eat his dinner.' Explain why your chosen word is better. (2 marks)

2. Replace the word 'walk' in this sentence: 'The explorer had to walk through the thick mud.' Explain why your chosen word is better. (2 marks)

3. Replace the word 'run' in this sentence: 'The wild horses began to run across the open plains.' Explain why your chosen word is better. (2 marks)

4. Replace the word 'bright' in this sentence: 'The moon was very bright in the night sky.' Explain why your chosen word is better. (2 marks)

5. Replace the word 'careful' in this sentence: 'The scientist was very careful while mixing the chemicals.' Explain why your chosen word is better. (2 marks)

6. Replace the word 'good' in this sentence: 'It was a good day at the park with my friends.' Explain why your chosen word is better. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene featuring Pip the caterpillar inside a giant, magical library vault where words are floating in the air like glowing bubbles. Show Pip using a magnifying glass to inspect a particularly long, fancy word.

Extension challenge: Justify your answer: If you were writing a mystery story, why might you choose the word 'glimmer' over 'shine'? Compare and contrast these two synonyms and explain how the choice of vocabulary alters the mood of the sentence for the reader.