

Adjective Adventures with Kit the Fox

Learning objective: To identify and use a range of expanded noun phrases and precise adjectives to enhance descriptive writing.

Read the story of Kit's forest discovery below. Pay close attention to how the adjectives describe the nouns. Use the word bank to help you complete the tasks that follow.

Kit the fox stood at the edge of the Whispering Woods. He was a clever fox with a meticulous mind for solving puzzles. Before him lay a magnificent oak tree, its ancient branches stretching towards the sky like jagged fingers. Tucked away in a hollow was a shimmering, metallic box that looked quite mysterious. Kit opened the lid to reveal a cluttered collection of vibrant, hand-painted maps. He felt a sprightly burst of excitement; today was going to be a day of discovery.

Word bank: magnificent · ancient · shimmering · meticulous · vibrant · mysterious · cluttered · sprightly

1. Identify three adjectives from the passage that describe the objects Kit found. Explain why these choices make the writing more interesting for the reader. (2 marks)

2. Look at the phrase 'an ancient branch'. If you replaced 'ancient' with 'gnarled', how does this change the image you have in your mind? (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the adjectives 'shimmering' and 'cluttered'. What do they tell us about the appearance of the items inside the box? (2 marks)

4. Justify your answer: Is the adjective 'meticulous' a good way to describe Kit? Use evidence from the text to support your opinion. (2 marks)

5. What might happen if all the adjectives were removed from the passage? Rewrite one sentence from the text without any adjectives and explain how it alters the impact. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw the 'mysterious' box that Kit found. Use your own adjectives to label the different textures and colours you have included in your illustration.



Extension challenge: Imagine Kit finds a strange, glowing compass inside the box. Write a paragraph describing the compass using at least four sophisticated adjectives and two expanded noun phrases. Explain why you chose these specific words to create a sense of wonder.