

Adventures with Nova: Crafting Expanded Noun Phrases

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases to convey information, add detail, and create vivid imagery in descriptive writing.

Nova the owl is exploring the Whispering Woods. Use the sentence starters below to describe the sights she sees. Remember to expand your noun phrases by adding adjectives and prepositional phrases (e.g., 'the shimmering, silver moon above the ancient trees').

Nova glided silently over the ancient, moss-covered trees that stood guard over the forest floor.

Word bank: shimmering · mysterious · ancient · glistening · beneath · amongst · surrounded by · vibrant · towering

1. Describe the forest floor using an expanded noun phrase: The forest floor was covered in... (2 marks)

2. Describe the sky above Nova using at least two adjectives: High above, the night sky looked... (2 marks)

3. Nova spots a hidden creature. Describe it using a prepositional phrase: Hidden within the tangled, dark bushes sat a... (2 marks)

4. Describe the sounds Nova hears: She listened carefully to the gentle, rhythmic sound of... (2 marks)

5. Summarise Nova's feelings: Nova felt a sense of wonder as she gazed at the... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you rewrite one of your answers to include a prepositional phrase that tells us exactly where the object is located? For example: 'The tiny, golden beetle on the rough, grey bark.'