

The Great Library Mystery: Sequencing the Archive

Learning objective: To develop retrieval and inference skills by sequencing narrative events and justifying the logical flow of a story.

Pip the bookworm has accidentally scrambled the pages of an ancient, dusty manuscript found in the BookFlik library. Below are eight key events from the story. Your task is to reorder them chronologically (1-8). Once you have numbered them, answer the deeper thinking questions to demonstrate your understanding of the narrative structure.

Word bank: chronological · inference · narrative · sequencing · consequences · perspective · climax · resolution

1. **1. Pip discovers a glowing, leather-bound book hidden behind a stack of maps.**
2. **2. The library lights flicker as a mysterious breeze blows through the closed windows.**
3. **3. Pip carefully brushes dust off the golden latch using a soft feather.**
4. **4. A whispery voice emanates from the pages, reciting a poem about a lost star.**
5. **5. Pip records the discovery in his word-collection journal for safekeeping.**
6. **6. The book snaps shut, and the library returns to its silent, peaceful state.**
7. **7. Nova the owl arrives to investigate the sudden drop in temperature.**
8. **8. Pip and Nova compare notes to identify the poem's origin.**

Explain why the order of these events is crucial for the reader's understanding of the mystery. (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the reactions of Pip and Nova when the library lights flicker. Why might they react differently? (3 marks)

3. Justify your answer: Does the discovery of the book represent the climax of this story, or merely the inciting incident? Provide evidence from the sequence. (3 marks)

4. What might happen if Pip had ignored the book and left it on the shelf instead of brushing off the dust? (2 marks)

5. If you were to add a ninth event to this sequence to provide a resolution, what would it be and why? (2 marks)

6. Explain why the author chose to include a 'whispery voice' as part of the narrative. How does this influence the tone of the passage? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw the moment the book begins to glow in the library. Include Pip the caterpillar looking at the book with wide eyes and Nova the owl perched on a bookshelf in the background.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are the author of this mystery. Write a short paragraph (50-80 words) describing the 'lost star' mentioned in the poem. Use at least three ambitious adjectives to create a sense of wonder and mystery.