Diwali: The Festival of Lights

Learning objective: To write an informative explanation about the meaning and traditions of Diwali.

Use this scaffold to structure your writing. Start each paragraph with the suggested prompt, then add your own research to explain the importance of Diwali for many people around the world.

Diwali, often referred to as the Festival of Lights, is a vibrant and joyous occasion celebrated by millions of people across the globe.

Word bank: significantly · traditionally · symbolises · furthermore · in addition · consequently · celebrated · triumph · illuminating

1. Introduction: Define what Diwali is and why it is celebrated. Start with: 'Diwali is an important festival because...' (2 marks)

2. The Legend: Explain the stories behind the festival, such as the return of Rama and Sita. Start with: 'According to tradition, the festival marks the story of...' (3 marks)

3. Customs and Traditions: Describe how people prepare their homes and what they do. Start with: 'During the festival, homes are decorated with...' (3 marks)

4. Food and Community: Discuss the role of sharing meals and sweets. Start with: 'Sharing special food and sweets is a central part of the celebration because...' (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise the main message of Diwali. Start with: 'Ultimately, Diwali is a time for...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine Nova the owl is visiting a Diwali celebration. Write a short diary entry from her perspective, describing the beautiful colours of the rangoli patterns and the warm glow of the diyas she sees from the sky.