

Year 5 English Assessment: The Power of Adjectives

Learning objective: To identify, use, and evaluate the impact of adjectives in descriptive writing.

Read each question carefully. Ensure your answers use correct British English spelling and punctuation.

Max the monkey sat on the branch of the old tree. He looked out over the jungle. Below him, the river flowed through the green forest. He held a shiny stone in his hand. It was a special discovery for his collection.

Word bank: magnificent · dull · extraordinary · glistening · ancient · vibrant · fragile · colossal

1. Identify two adjectives used in the passage above. (2 marks)

2. Rewrite the sentence 'He held a shiny stone in his hand' using two more powerful, sophisticated adjectives to replace 'shiny' and 'stone'. (3 marks)

3. Explain how changing the adjective 'old' to 'ancient' changes the reader's understanding of the tree. (3 marks)

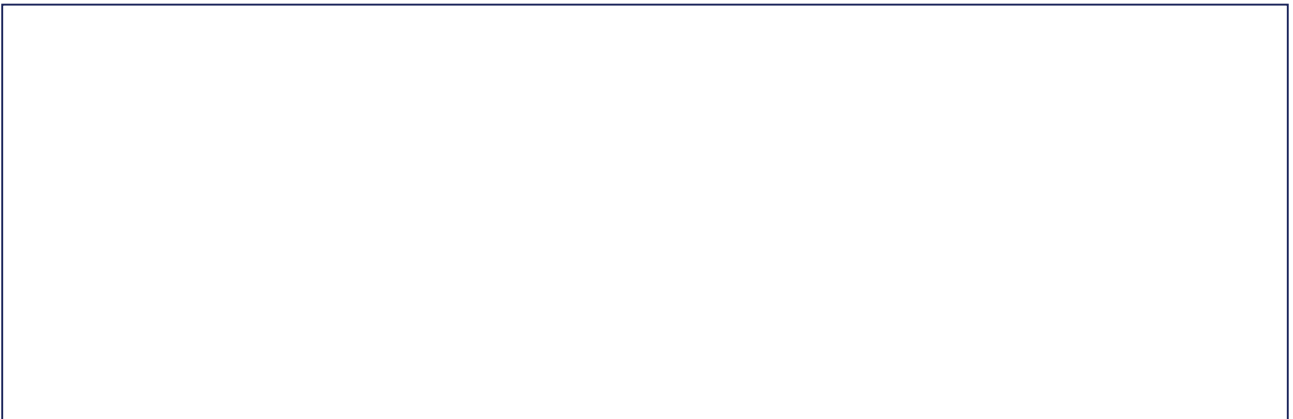
4. Write two sentences describing Nova the owl. Use at least one expanded noun phrase in each sentence (e.g., 'the intelligent, silver-winged owl'). (4 marks)

5. Circle the most appropriate adjective to complete this sentence: The _____ wind whistled through the dark cave, making Pip the caterpillar shiver. (a) fluffy (b) howling (c) happy (2 marks)

6. Why might an author choose to use adjectives like 'colossal' or 'fragile' instead of just saying 'big' or 'delicate'? Discuss the effect on the reader. (6 marks)

7. Imagine you are describing a magical forest to Zara the zebra. Write a short paragraph (3-5 sentences) using at least five adjectives from the word bank to make your description vivid. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a 'vibrant' and 'magnificent' jungle scene. Label your drawing with three adjectives that describe what you have created.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a synonym for 'dull' and use it in a sentence that describes a rainy day.