

A Festive Tale: Crafting Your Christmas Story

Learning objective: To plan and structure a festive narrative using descriptive language, character development, and a clear plot arc suitable for a Year 5 audience.

Use your imagination to answer the questions below. Think about how Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar might celebrate the season. Use the word bank to help make your writing more descriptive.

Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar are preparing for the annual Winter Forest Celebration. Max is busy calculating the cost of ingredients for a feast, while Pip is busy collecting beautiful words to write a poem for the event. They need your help to turn their preparations into a story.

Word bank: enchanting · shimmering · hustle and bustle · festive · twinkling · generosity · cozy · anticipation · evergreen · whimsical

1. Max wants to buy decorations for the forest. If he buys three sets of fairy lights at £4.50 each and a star for £2.75, what is the total cost? Show your working. (2 marks)

2. Describe the setting of the forest using at least three adjectives from the word bank. How does the atmosphere change as the celebration begins? (3 marks)

3. Pip needs a 'hook' to start his story. Write an opening sentence that uses personification to describe the winter wind. (2 marks)

4. Every good story needs a problem. What is one 'festive disaster' that could happen to Max and Pip while they are preparing their feast? (2 marks)

5. How do Max and Pip resolve their problem? Explain the theme of 'generosity' in your answer. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing Max the monkey decorating a tall, snowy pine tree with Pip the caterpillar watching nearby. Include at least three 'twinkling' items in your drawing.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (50-70 words) from the perspective of Pip the caterpillar, explaining why he loves the 'hustle and bustle' of the winter season.