

The Forest of Whispers: A Creative Writing Scaffold

Learning objective: To write an imaginative narrative using descriptive language, expanded noun phrases, and varied sentence structures.

Use the prompts below to help Max the monkey build a story about an unexpected discovery in the heart of an ancient forest. Focus on using your senses to describe the setting and your character's reactions.

As Max pushed aside the thick, tangled vines, he gasped at the sight of a hidden waterfall that glowed with a soft, golden light.

Word bank: meanwhile · shimmering · unexpectedly · towering · in the distance · vibrant · beyond the canopy · cautiously · beneath the emerald leaves

1. The Setting: Describe what the forest looked and sounded like as Max stepped into the clearing. What unusual details can you see? Start with: The forest air felt... (2 marks)

2. The Discovery: Max notices something strange lying at the base of the waterfall. What is it, and how does he feel when he approaches it? Start with: Resting on the mossy bank was... (2 marks)

3. The Action: Something unexpected happens. Does the object move, or does the waterfall change? Start with: Without warning, the silence was broken by... (2 marks)

4. The Reaction: How does Max respond to this change? Does he stay to investigate or run away? Start with: Max's heart raced as he realised... (2 marks)

5. The Conclusion: How does the story end? Think about a final thought or a mystery left unsolved. Start with: As the sun began to set, Max decided... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Try to include a piece of dialogue between Max and another character (like Nova the owl) that reveals their personality. Ensure you use correctly punctuated speech marks.