

Year 4 Assessment: Mastering Expanded Noun Phrases

Learning objective: To identify, construct, and evaluate the effectiveness of expanded noun phrases to add detail and description to writing.

Read each question carefully. Use your best handwriting and ensure you use capital letters and full stops where required. Think about how your chosen adjectives and prepositional phrases change the image in the reader's mind.

Max the monkey sat in the jungle. He saw a tree. He held a map. He looked at the waterfall. He felt happy.

Word bank: shimmering · ancient · intrepid · mysterious · vibrant · beneath · beside · adorned with · delicate · colossal

1. Identify the noun phrase in this sentence: 'The curious owl watched the shimmering stars.' (1 mark)

2. Expand the noun 'tree' from the passage using two adjectives and one prepositional phrase. Write the new phrase as a full sentence. (2 marks)

3. Rewrite this sentence to include an expanded noun phrase for 'map': 'Max held a map.' Explain why your new sentence is more descriptive for the reader. (3 marks)

4. Look at the passage provided. Choose two simple nouns (e.g., 'jungle', 'waterfall') and expand them into detailed noun phrases. Write them below. (4 marks)

5. Compare these two sentences: 'The cat sat on the mat' vs 'The ginger cat with emerald eyes sat on the woven mat.' Which is more effective? Justify your answer using the term 'expanded noun phrase'. (5 marks)

6. What might happen to the reader's understanding of a story if an author used only simple nouns instead of expanded noun phrases? Give a reason for your answer. (5 marks)

7. Creative Task: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing a treasure chest found by Pip the caterpillar. You must include at least three different expanded noun phrases. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw the scene you described in the final question, ensuring you include the visual details you mentioned in your expanded noun phrases.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Imagine you are Nova the owl writing a field report about a new planet. Write a paragraph using complex expanded noun phrases to describe the terrain. Use at least two adjectives before the noun and a prepositional phrase after the noun for every subject mentioned.