

An Adventure in the Ancient Library

Learning objective: To identify and use expanded noun phrases to add detail and description to writing.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below. Remember to look for nouns modified by adjectives and prepositional phrases.

Pip the caterpillar crawled slowly across the dusty, wooden shelves of the Great Library. He was searching for a rare, ancient book with golden edges. As he moved, he passed a tall, flickering candle in a brass holder. Pip adjusted his tiny, knitted scarf, feeling the cool air of the silent room. Suddenly, he spotted it! Sitting on a sturdy, oak table near the back window was the mysterious, leather-bound journal. The journal had intricate, silver patterns on its cover and a blue, silken ribbon acting as a bookmark. Pip felt a surge of excitement. He climbed up the thick, velvet curtains to get a better view. From his high position, he could see the entire room filled with countless, magical stories waiting to be discovered. The quiet, peaceful atmosphere made Pip feel calm. He knew that today would be the start of a wonderful, literary adventure. He carefully navigated the rough, paper surface of the desk, eager to open the heavy, mysterious volume and begin his reading journey.

Word bank: adjective · noun · prepositional phrase · description · detail

1. Find two examples of expanded noun phrases used to describe the journal in the text. (2 marks)

2. Where exactly was the journal located in the library? (2 marks)

3. Why does the author use the phrase 'sturdy, oak table' instead of just 'table'? (2 marks)

4. What does the text suggest about Pip's personality based on his behaviour in the library? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Pip is a good explorer? Use evidence from the text to justify your answer. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw Pip the caterpillar standing on the sturdy, oak table next to the leather-bound journal. Include the blue, silken ribbon and the velvet curtains in your drawing.



Extension challenge: Choose three objects in your classroom. Write an expanded noun phrase for each one, using at least two adjectives and one prepositional phrase for every object.