

Detective Pip's Clue Hunt: Mastering Inference

Learning objective: To make inferences from short descriptions by using clues and personal knowledge.

Pip the bookworm caterpillar has lost his special reading glasses! Read the five short scene descriptions below. Use the clues in each sentence to infer what is happening or how a character is feeling. Write your answer in the space provided, explaining which words helped you solve the mystery.

Word bank: worried · excited · celebrating · tired · nervous · clues · evidence · inference

1. Scene 1: Zara the zebra is tapping her hooves quickly and checking her watch every ten seconds. She keeps looking at the front door. What is Zara feeling and why? (2 marks)

2. Scene 2: Max the monkey is sitting at his desk with piles of paper, a ruler, and a half-eaten banana. He is rubbing his eyes and yawning loudly. What is Max doing and how is he feeling? (2 marks)

3. Scene 3: Leo the lion walks into the room, his head held high. He is holding a shiny golden trophy and his friends are clapping. What has just happened? (2 marks)

4. Scene 4: Nova the owl is huddled under a thick blanket. She is shivering and there is a bowl of hot lemon drink on the table. What is likely wrong with Nova? (2 marks)

5. Scene 5: Finn the dolphin is swimming in circles, blowing bubbles and splashing his tail in the water while wearing a colourful party hat. What is the occasion? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene where a character is feeling 'nervous'. Can you include objects in the picture that give the reader clues about why they feel that way without saying 'nervous' in the drawing?



Extension challenge: Choose one of your answers above and write a short paragraph explaining the 'evidence' you used. For example: 'I know Zara is impatient because the text says she keeps checking her watch.'