

A Letter from the Forest Library

Learning objective: To identify and analyse the formal features and purpose of an informal letter.

Read the letter written by Pip the caterpillar carefully. Once you have finished reading, answer the questions below using evidence from the text.

Dear Max, I hope this letter finds you well! I have been spending my mornings at the Great Oak Library, where I discovered a fascinating book about the geometry of honeycomb structures. It reminded me of you immediately, as I know how much you enjoy solving complex mathematical puzzles. I have carefully curated a list of the most interesting patterns I found and tucked it into this envelope for you. Would you be able to help me calculate the perimeter of the hexagonal cells mentioned in chapter three? I am finding the measurements rather tricky to visualise. The weather in the forest has been glorious, perfect for reading under the dappled shade of the ferns. I shall be visiting the pond next week to meet Finn for a geography lesson, but I am eagerly awaiting your reply. Perhaps you could bring your sketchbook when we next meet so we can compare our findings? Sending you warm wishes and many happy thoughts for your next number challenge. Yours truly, Pip.

Word bank: correspondence · recipient · salutation · affectionate · enclosure · postmark · sincere

1. Where has Pip been spending her mornings, and what specific subject is the book she discovered about? (2 marks)

2. What does Pip ask Max to bring with him when they next meet? (1 mark)

3. Explain why Pip believes Max is the perfect person to help her with her mathematical puzzle. (2 marks)

4. What might happen if Max decides not to reply to Pip's letter? How might this affect their friendship? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Pip is a good friend? Justify your answer using examples from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw an illustration of Pip the caterpillar writing a letter at a desk made of forest materials, with a pile of books and a hexagonal pattern nearby.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenge: Imagine you are Max. Write a formal reply to Pip. In your response, ensure you address her question about the hexagonal perimeter, suggest a time and place for your next meeting, and include at least two words from the word bank.