

Year 5 English Assessment: The Art of Storytelling

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of narrative structure, character development, and descriptive language techniques.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below. Use your best handwriting, check your spelling, and ensure you use full sentences where required.

The old, forgotten library stood at the edge of the forest like a silent guardian. Inside, Pip the caterpillar crawled across a dusty shelf, his tiny eyes wide with wonder. He was searching for the legendary Book of Lost Seasons. Suddenly, the floorboards creaked. Was it a gust of wind, or something else? Pip held his breath as the heavy oak door groaned open. A sliver of moonlight cut through the darkness, illuminating thousands of dancing dust motes. He knew that tonight, his quiet life of leaf-munching was about to change forever.

Word bank: atmosphere · metaphor · personification · protagonist · climax · vivid · foreshadowing · narrative

1. Identify the simile used in the first sentence. Explain what it tells the reader about the library. (2 marks)

2. Who is the protagonist of this story and what is their primary motivation? (2 marks)

3. Find an example of personification in the passage. Why does the author choose to use this technique? (3 marks)

4. How does the author create a sense of mystery and tension in the second paragraph? Refer to specific vocabulary from the text. (4 marks)

5. Define the term 'climax' and explain why it is essential for a compelling narrative. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing: Write a paragraph (5-8 sentences) describing what happens next when the door opens. Use at least two pieces of descriptive imagery and ensure your tense remains consistent. (10 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing the library interior as described, focusing on the contrast between the moonlight and the shadows.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Rewrite the final sentence of the passage using a metaphor to describe Pip's feelings instead of the current description.