

Mastering Character Portraits: A Quiz with Kit the Fox

Learning objective: To analyze and craft descriptive language to create vivid, original character portrayals.

Read the short passage about Kit the Fox. Answer the following questions to test your knowledge of how writers use adjectives, adverbs, and expanded noun phrases to bring characters to life.

Kit the fox adjusted his spectacles with a nimble paw. His fur was the color of burnished fall leaves, glowing softly against the grey stone of his workshop. He moved with a quiet, quick-witted grace, his bushy tail twitching whenever he solved a tricky puzzle. His bright, amber eyes sparkled like polished gemstones, always searching for the next clever solution.

Word bank: adjective · adverb · expanded noun phrase · alliteration · metaphor · personification · vivid · characterisation

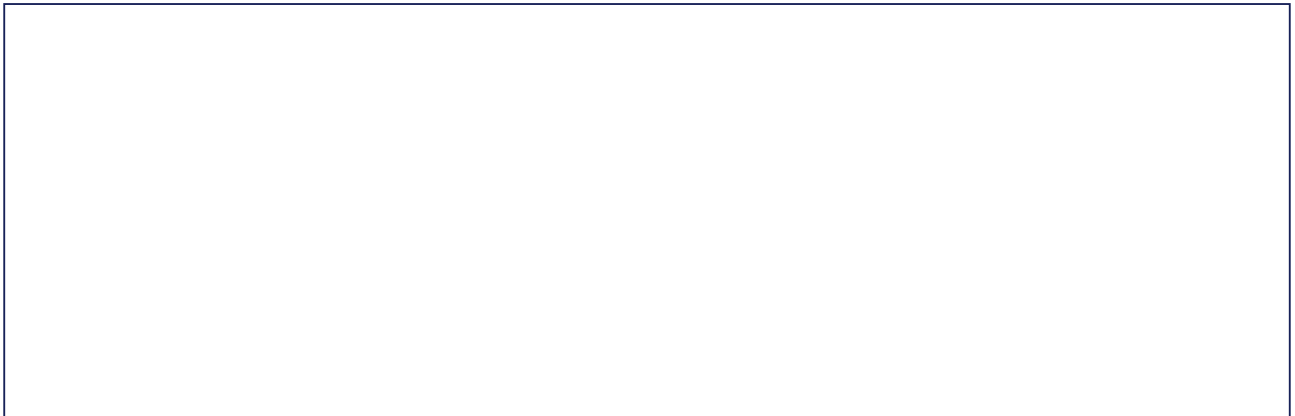
1. Which phrase from the passage is an example of an expanded noun phrase? A) adjusted his spectacles B) his bushy tail C) his bright, amber eyes* D) quick-witted grace (1 mark)
2. True or False: The phrase 'sparkled like polished gemstones' is a simile used to describe Kit's eyes. (1 mark)
3. Identify the adverb used in the passage to describe how Kit moves. (1 mark)
4. Why did the author choose the adjective 'burnished' to describe Kit's fur? A) To show it is dirty B) To show it is bright and polished like metal* C) To show it is very short D) To show it is wet (1 mark)
5. What does the phrase 'quick-witted grace' tell us about Kit's personality? (1 mark)
6. Which of these is an example of alliteration? A) Kit the fox B) quiet, quick-witted* C) fall leaves D) grey stone (1 mark)
7. If Kit were to find a rare clock worth £15.50, and he bought it for £8.25, how much change would he have? (Calculate the difference). (1 mark)

8. Justify your answer: Does the description of the 'grey stone workshop' help us understand Kit better? Explain why. (1 mark)

9. Compare and contrast: How does describing an object (like a gemstone) help a reader visualise a character's eyes? (1 mark)

10. What might happen if we changed the adjective 'bushy' to 'scruffy' when describing Kit's tail? How would the character feel different? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Kit the Fox in his workshop, making sure to include at least three details mentioned in the passage (e.g., his amber eyes, his fall-colored fur, or his spectacles).



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) introducing a new character who is friends with Kit. Use at least two expanded noun phrases, one simile, and one adverb to describe how they move or behave.