

Grade 4 Creative Writing Assessment: Crafting Atmospheric Narratives

Learning objective: To demonstrate the ability to use descriptive language, varied sentence structures, and effective vocabulary to create atmosphere.

Read the prompt below carefully. Answer all questions using your best Grade 4 vocabulary and punctuation. Ensure your writing is imaginative and technically accurate.

Max the monkey sat on the edge of the Ancient Library, watching the sun dip below the horizon. As the sky turned a deep, bruised purple, the forest began to change. The shadows stretched out like long, spindly fingers, and the air grew cool against his fur. He gripped his notebook, ready to capture the magic of the twilight hour.

Word bank: Ethereal · Luminous · Resonated · Whispering · Silhouette · Cacophony · Melancholy · Vibrant · Cascading · Mysterious

1. Identify the simile used in the passage and explain what it suggests about the setting. (2 marks)

2. Rewrite the sentence 'The air grew cool' to include a powerful adjective and a strong verb, creating a more vivid atmosphere. (2 marks)

3. Max is feeling reflective. Write two sentences using personification to describe how the forest reacts to the coming night. (3 marks)

4. Explain why an author might choose to use the word 'bruised' instead of 'dark' to describe the purple sky. How does this word choice change the reader's mood? (4 marks)

5. Compare and contrast the atmosphere of a busy marketplace with the quiet forest scene described in the passage. Use at least two words from the word bank. (4 marks)

6. Creative Writing Task: Continue the story. Describe what Max discovers in the library as the stars begin to appear. Focus on sensory details (sight, sound, touch, smell). (10 marks)

Draw: Sketch the scene as Max sees it from the library edge. Include 'luminous' elements and show how the 'silhouettes' of the trees appear against the darkening sky.



Extension challenge: Justify your choice of vocabulary in your creative writing task. Explain how your use of sentence variety (short for impact, long for description) helped build suspense for the reader. What might happen if Max decided to leave the library before the moon rose? Total: /25