

Mastering Paragraphs with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To understand how to organize writing into paragraphs using subheadings and topic sentences to signal a shift in focus, time, place, or person.

Read the tasks carefully. Use your knowledge of how to group related ideas together to build clear, structured writing. Remember that a new paragraph should always start when you change your focus.

Pip the Bookworm is busy organising his library. He knows that a good story needs paragraphs to help the reader follow the action. Each paragraph is a tiny building block that holds a specific idea. When Pip moves from describing the setting to explaining what a character is doing, he starts a brand new paragraph.

Word bank: Topic sentence · Cohesion · Transition · Focus · Structure · Chronological

1. Pip is writing a story about a forest adventure. List the four main reasons why a writer might decide to start a new paragraph. (4 marks)

2. What is a 'topic sentence' and why is it important to include one at the start of a paragraph? (2 marks)

3. Imagine Pip is writing about a rainy day in the woods. Write two topic sentences: one for a paragraph about the weather and one for a paragraph about the animals hiding in their burrows. (4 marks)

4. Explain why it would be confusing for a reader if a story was written as one single, long paragraph. (2 marks)

5. Max the Monkey has written a paragraph that mixes up facts about his breakfast with a description of his favorite tree. Rewrite the concept of how to fix this by using two separate paragraphs. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the Bookworm sitting in a library where every shelf is labelled with a different paragraph topic, such as 'Setting', 'Character', 'Action', and 'Conclusion'.



Extension challenge: Write a three-paragraph story about an adventure in a magical garden. Use a different topic sentence for each paragraph and ensure each one focuses on a different part of the journey.