

Exploring Narrative Landscapes with Leo the Lion

Learning objective: To identify how authors use descriptive language and character perspectives to build an engaging story.

Read the story passage below carefully. Think about how Leo the Lion feels as he travels through the Whispering Woods. Answer the questions that follow using evidence from the text.

Leo the Lion adjusted his worn leather satchel and took a deep breath of the crisp, fall air. He was searching for the legendary Silver Stream, a place that his grandfather had described in poems long ago. The Whispering Woods lived up to their name; the ancient oak trees creaked and groaned as if sharing secrets with the breeze. Golden leaves crunched rhythmically under Leo's heavy paws. He felt a shiver of excitement. He wasn't just walking; he was following a trail of history. He checked his hand-drawn map, feeling the rough texture of the paper. Everything felt possible today. He knew that the best stories were not just found in books, but lived out under the open sky.

Word bank: Atmosphere · Perspective · Adjectives · Narrative · Personification · Setting

1. Why does the author describe the trees as 'whispering' and 'sharing secrets'? What literary technique is this? (2 marks)

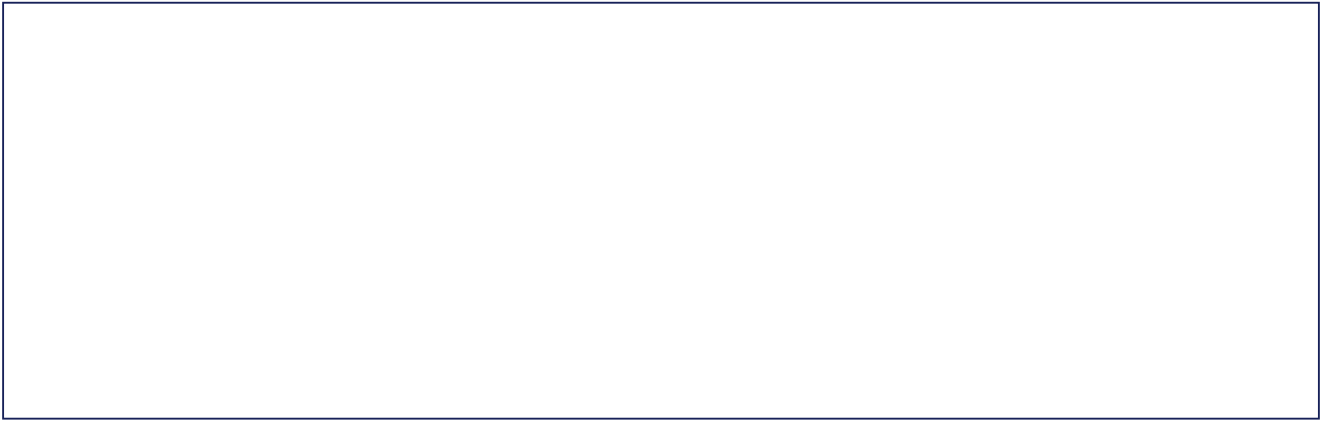
2. Identify two adjectives used in the text to describe the setting of the Whispering Woods. (2 marks)

3. How does Leo feel about his journey? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (3 marks)

4. If Leo found a small store selling maps for £3.50 and a compass for £5.25, how much would he spend in total? (2 marks)

5. Leo says, 'the best stories were not just found in books, but lived out under the open sky.' What do you think he means by this? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw your own version of the Whispering Woods. Make sure to include Leo the Lion with his satchel and the golden leaves on the ground.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) describing what Leo might see when he finally reaches the Silver Stream. Use at least two pieces of personification to describe the water or the surrounding area.