

Expanding Our Vocabulary with Pip

Learning objective: To select and use appropriate vocabulary to improve the impact and precision of our writing.

Read the short story about Pip the caterpillar's garden adventure. Use the word bank to help you identify more descriptive synonyms for the underlined words and answer the questions below.

Pip the caterpillar crawled through the garden. He saw a big sunflower reaching towards the sky. The colors of the petals were bright. Suddenly, a beetle ran quickly across the path. Pip found a quiet spot under a leaf to enjoy his lunch. It was a beautiful day.

Word bank: dazzling · scurried · vibrant · enormous · tranquil

1. Find the word 'big' in the passage. Which word from the word bank is a more precise synonym for 'big'? (1 mark)

2. Rewrite the sentence: 'The colors of the petals were bright,' using a word from the word bank to make it more descriptive. (2 marks)

3. Explain why using the word 'scurried' is more effective than saying the beetle 'ran quickly'. (2 marks)

4. Which word from the word bank best describes the 'quiet spot' Pip found? (1 mark)

5. If Pip saw a bright, shiny object in the garden, which word from the bank would be the best adjective to describe it? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Pip the caterpillar sitting in his tranquil spot under an enormous, vibrant sunflower. Add a label using at least two descriptive adjectives from the word bank.



Extension challenge: Choose two of your own 'boring' adjectives (e.g., happy, sad, fast) and create a list of three more exciting synonyms for each that you could use in your next piece of creative writing.