

Crafting Compelling Characters: A Descriptive Writing Frame

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases and precise adjectives to describe a character's appearance, personality, and actions.

Follow the structure below to build a detailed character profile. Use the word bank to help make your descriptions more vivid. Remember to show, not just tell, what your character is like through their actions.

As the morning mist began to clear, a mysterious figure emerged from the dense, ancient forest path, clutching a worn leather satchel.

Word bank: shimmering · meticulous · battered · inquisitive · casually · towering · gleaming · beside · meanwhile · consequently · radiating · formidable

1. Physical Appearance: Describe the character's facial features and clothing. Start with: 'The character's face was framed by...' (2 marks)

2. Personality Traits: What is their personality like? How do they behave? Start with: 'Known for their ..., they always carried themselves with...' (2 marks)

3. The Character's Movement: How do they move through the environment? Start with: 'They navigated the terrain by...' (2 marks)

4. A Special Item: Describe an object they are carrying. Why is it important to them? Start with: 'Tucked away in their pocket was a...', (2 marks)

5. Reflective Thought: How does the character feel in this moment? Start with: 'A flicker of emotion crossed their face as they realised...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Choose one of the BookFlik characters (such as Nova the owl or Kit the fox) and rewrite your character description as if they were the person emerging from the forest. How does their unique personality change the way you describe their movements and belongings?