

Year 6 English Assessment: The Power of Adjectives

Learning objective: To identify, use, and evaluate the impact of adjectives and expanded noun phrases to enhance descriptive writing.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below. Ensure you use full sentences where required and check your spelling and punctuation.

Max the monkey sat on a sturdy branch, gazing at the ancient forest. He held a small, weathered map in his nimble fingers. Below him, the dense canopy shimmered in the golden sunlight. He was looking for the hidden treasure, an object of immense value, said to be tucked away in a dusty, forgotten chest. He adjusted his heavy backpack and began his cautious climb towards the shimmering waterfall.

Word bank: Formidable · Luminous · Intricate · Substantial · Melancholy · Vibrant · Precarious

1. Identify two adjectives used in the first sentence of the passage. (2 marks)

2. Look at the phrase 'an object of immense value'. Rewrite this phrase using a single adjective instead of the prepositional phrase. (2 marks)

3. Find and copy an expanded noun phrase from the passage that uses two adjectives before the noun. (2 marks)

4. Why might an author choose to use the adjective 'precarious' instead of the adjective 'unstable' when describing a climbing path? Explain the effect on the reader. (4 marks)

5. Explain how the adjectives in the passage help to build a sense of atmosphere. Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (5 marks)

6. Rewrite the following sentence to include two high-level adjectives and one prepositional phrase: 'The bird flew over the trees.' (5 marks)

7. Create a sentence of your own describing a stormy sea, using at least two adjectives from the word bank provided. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene featuring Max the monkey in the forest described in the passage. Label two items in your drawing using an expanded noun phrase (e.g., 'the tall, green tree').



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) about a mysterious, abandoned library, using at least one superlative adjective and one relative clause.