

A Winter Celebration at the Great Oak

Learning objective: To analyse character perspective and use descriptive language to write a festive narrative.

Read the story below about Pip the bookworm and his friends, then answer the questions based on the text and your own creative ideas.

The Great Oak was buzzing with quiet excitement. Pip the caterpillar had spent all week organising the annual Winter Feast. He had carefully labelled every jar of berry jam and stacked the acorns in neat, symmetrical piles. Outside, the forest floor was dusted with a fine layer of frost, making the world look like it was covered in sparkling sugar. Max the monkey was busy calculating how many pinecones they would need to decorate the branches, his brow furrowed in deep thought. 'If each branch holds six, and we have eight branches,' Max muttered, 'then we need forty-eight decorations!' Meanwhile, Nova the owl perched high above, watching the stars begin to glimmer through the bare branches. She loved this time of year, when the cold air made the stories told by the fire feel even warmer. They were waiting for Leo the lion to arrive with his poem, a long-standing tradition that brought the whole forest together in a moment of peace.

Word bank: festive · anticipation · glimmering · atmosphere · tradition · cozy · tinsel

1. How does the author describe the forest floor, and what technique is used to create this image? (2 marks)

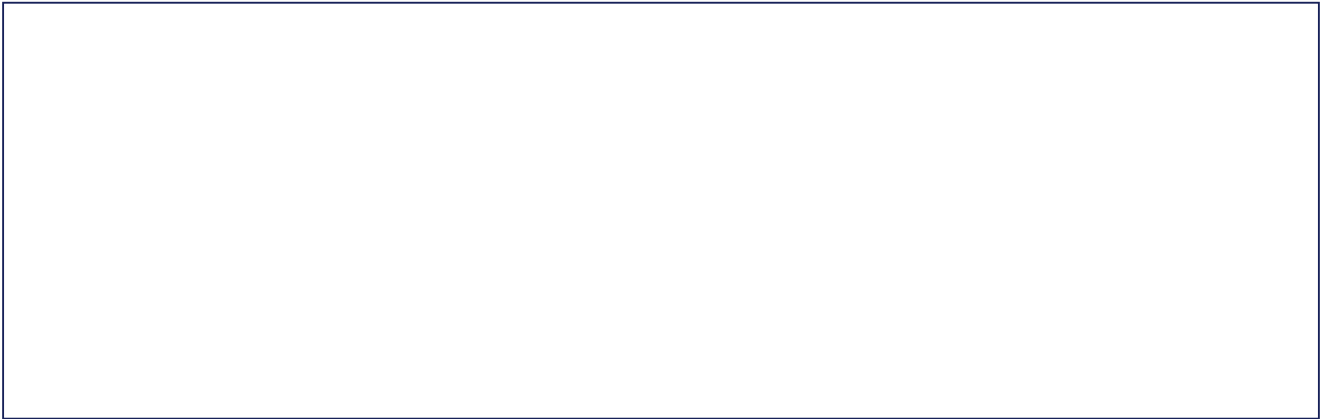
2. Based on the text, what does Max's behaviour tell us about his personality? (2 marks)

3. Why do the characters feel that the stories told by the fire are warmer during the winter? (2 marks)

4. Find and copy two adjectives from the text that describe the atmosphere of the Winter Feast. (2 marks)

5. If Pip wanted to buy festive ribbons for the feast, and each ribbon cost £0.75, how much would 6 ribbons cost in total? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing the inside of the Great Oak, including Pip decorating the acorn piles and Max counting his pinecones.



Extension challenge: Write a short poem, in the style of Leo the lion, about the beauty of the forest during the winter season. Ensure you use at least two examples of personification.