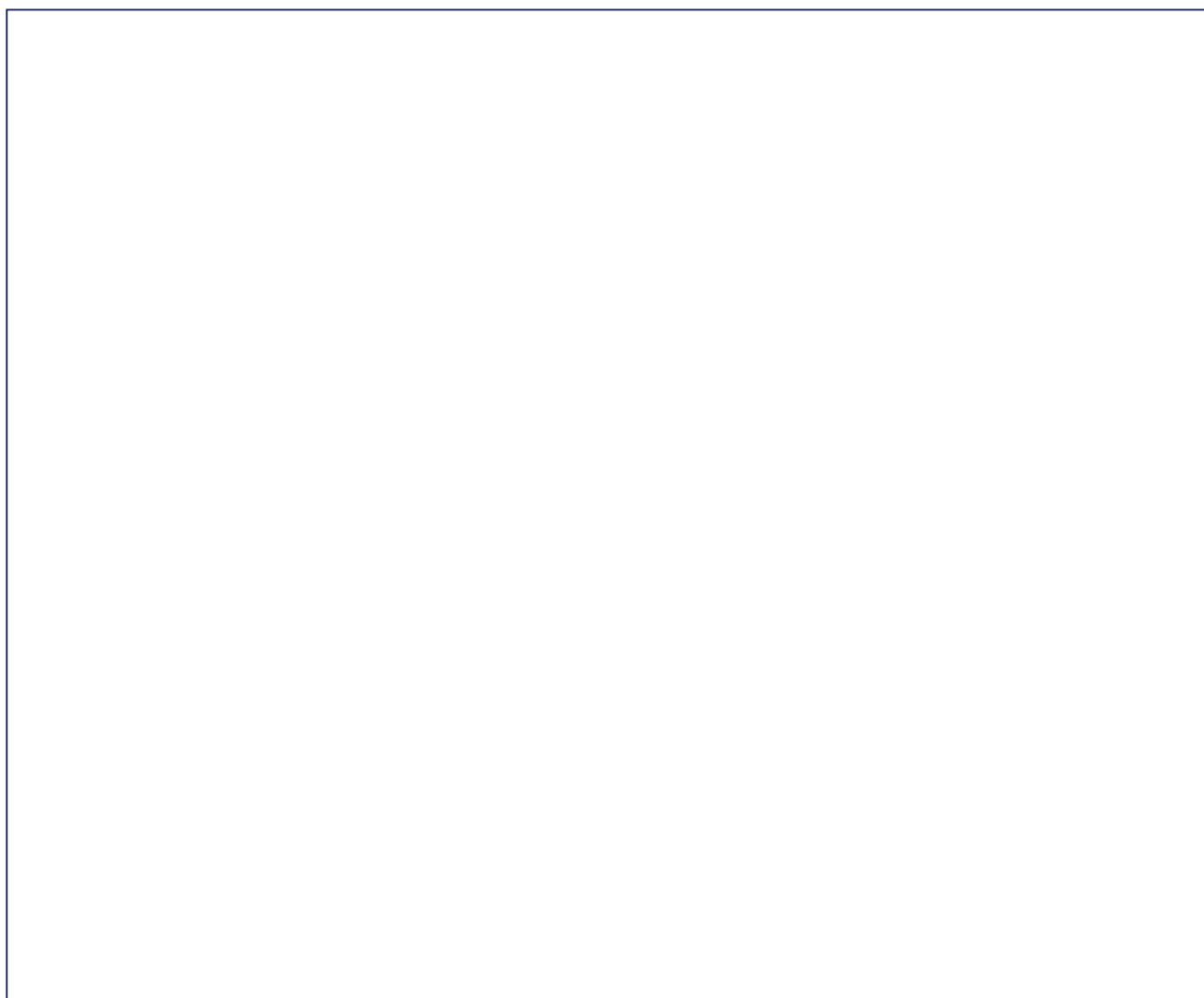


Debate at the Forest Library: A Discussion Planning Sheet

Learning objective: To structure a balanced discussion text by visualising contrasting viewpoints on a topical issue.

Pip the bookworm is hosting a debate at the Forest Library. The topic is: 'Should we build a new treehouse extension for more books?' Use this sheet to plan your arguments. Draw the debate scene in the box provided, then use the labels to identify the key features of a balanced discussion.

Draw: Draw a large, two-sided table set up inside a grand, hollowed-out oak tree. On the left side, draw Pip the caterpillar sitting at a desk surrounded by stacks of books and a 'Pro-Extension' sign. On the right side, draw Max the monkey with a clipboard and a 'Conserve Nature' sign. Use a 'cartoon-realism' style, ensuring the library setting looks cosy with shelves carved into the tree bark. Include speech bubbles for each character expressing their conflicting views.



Label words: Introduction · Balanced Argument · Supporting Evidence · Counter-argument · Concluding Statement · Formal Tone · Persuasive Vocabulary

Steps:

1. Identify two formal conjunctions you could use to transition between the 'for' and 'against' arguments in

your text.

2. Explain why it is important to include a 'counter-argument' when writing a balanced discussion text.
3. Label your drawing to show where the 'Introduction' would sit in a written report and where the 'Concluding Statement' would be placed.
4. Justify your answer: If you were Pip, which argument would be the most persuasive to include in your introduction? Why?
5. Compare and contrast the vocabulary used in a 'discussion text' versus a 'story narrative'. Which is more objective?
6. What might happen if a discussion text only presented one side of an argument? Explain the impact on the reader.