

The Festival of Lights: Writing Your Diwali Narrative

Learning objective: To write a creative narrative based on the traditional Diwali story of Rama and Sita, focusing on descriptive language and paragraph structure.

Use the prompts below to build your story. Think about how you can use powerful adjectives and fronted adverbials to bring the setting of Ayodhya to life. Remember to check your punctuation for direct speech as the characters interact.

As the sun dipped below the horizon, a golden glow began to spread across the kingdom of Ayodhya, signalling the return of the long-awaited travellers.

Word bank: triumphantly · flickering · banishment · courageous · luminescent · furthermore · consequently · meanwhile · in the distance · shimmering

1. Introduction: Describe the atmosphere in the kingdom as the people prepare for the return of Rama and Sita. Start with: The streets were bustling with excitement as... (2 marks)

2. The Journey: Write about the challenges faced during the exile in the forest. Start with: Despite the dense, dark shadows of the forest, the travellers remained brave because... (3 marks)

3. The Climax: Describe the moment of victory. Start with: With a final display of strength and justice, the battle was won and... (3 marks)

4. The Celebration: Explain how the people light their lamps (diyas) to welcome them home. Start with: Thousands of tiny clay lamps were placed in rows, creating... (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Reflect on the meaning of the festival. Start with: To this day, the flickering flames remind everyone that light will always... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Nova the owl wants to know how light travels! Research how light reflects off surfaces and write a short paragraph explaining why the diyas make the kingdom seem so bright.