

An Adventure in the Ancient Library

Learning objective: To identify, explain, and use fronted adverbials to enhance descriptive writing.

Read the text carefully, paying close attention to the opening phrases of each sentence. Answer the questions in full sentences, ensuring you provide evidence from the text where required.

Deep within the dusty archives of the Great Library, Ellie the elephant searched for a lost scroll. Patiently, she flicked through the yellowed parchment with her trunk. Suddenly, a mysterious light flickered behind a towering bookshelf. With great caution, Ellie approached the hidden alcove, her ears twitching in anticipation. Without making a sound, she discovered a secret lever disguised as a wooden book spine. Beyond the shelves, a hidden passage revealed itself, smelling faintly of ancient cedar and stardust. Outside, the moon began to rise over the horizon, casting silver shadows across the stone floor. Trembling with excitement, Ellie prepared to document this marvellous discovery in her journal. Through the darkened corridor, she noticed intricate patterns etched into the walls. Everywhere she looked, the history of her ancestors seemed to come alive. Eagerly, she began to transcribe the symbols, knowing that her memory would preserve these secrets forever. With a gentle sigh of satisfaction, she realised that some stories are truly timeless.

Word bank: Adverbial · Comma · Sentence opener · Descriptive · Modify · Placement · Clause

1. Identify two fronted adverbials used in the first paragraph. Why is the comma placed after them? (2 marks)

2. What did Ellie find behind the bookshelf, and where was it located? (2 marks)

3. Explain why the author uses the fronted adverbial 'Without making a sound' to describe Ellie's discovery. (2 marks)

4. What does the phrase 'smelling faintly of ancient cedar and stardust' suggest about the atmosphere of the hidden passage? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Ellie is a suitable character to be exploring this library? Justify your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing Ellie the elephant standing inside the hidden passage. Include the intricate patterns on the walls and the silver moonlight shining through from the library.



Extension challenge: Write a paragraph describing what Ellie might find at the end of the hidden passage. You must use at least three fronted adverbials to describe time, place, or manner, and underline them.