

Mastering Fronted Adverbials with Kit the Fox

Learning objective: To identify, use, and punctuate fronted adverbials to add detail and variety to sentences.

Read each task carefully. Remember that a fronted adverbial is a word or phrase at the beginning of a sentence that describes how, when, or where an action takes place. Always use a comma after your fronted adverbial!

Word bank: Cautiously · Under the ancient oak tree · Without a moment's hesitation · Deep in the forest · Surprisingly · During the silent night

1. Kit the fox needs to complete his logbook. Rewrite the following sentence by adding a fronted adverbial from the word bank to describe when the action happened: 'Kit solved the complex code.' (2 marks)

2. Identify the fronted adverbial in this sentence: 'High above the clouds, Nova the owl watched the stars twinkle.' Explain why the comma is necessary after the word 'clouds'. (2 marks)

3. Create your own sentence about Max the monkey using a fronted adverbial that describes 'where' he is. Ensure you include a comma. (2 marks)

4. Compare these two sentences: 'Zara painted a masterpiece quietly.' and 'Quietly, Zara painted a masterpiece.' Why might a writer choose to use the second option instead of the first? Justify your answer. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to the meaning of the sentence 'Slowly, Pip the caterpillar ate the leaf' if you moved the fronted adverbial to the end of the sentence? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Kit the fox investigating a mysterious forest floor. Label your drawing with three different fronted adverbials that describe the scene (e.g., 'Near the bubbling stream', 'Very carefully').



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) describing an adventure involving Ellie the elephant. You must start every sentence with a different fronted adverbial. Challenge: Use at least one fronted adverbial of time and one of place.