

Mastering the Art of Inference with Nova the Owl

Learning objective: To use evidence from the text to make logical inferences about a character's feelings and hidden motives.

Read the opening passage carefully. Think about what Nova is not saying out loud. Use the prompts below to write a short paragraph, ensuring you explain 'why' you think a certain way by linking it to the clues in the text.

Nova adjusted her spectacles and stared at the empty telescope stand, her feathers visibly ruffled as she tapped a single talon against the cold stone floor.

Word bank: suggests that · implies · the evidence shows · consequently · this indicates · on the other hand · reveals · furthermore

1. How does Nova feel about the missing telescope? Start your sentence with: 'It is clear that Nova is feeling... because the text mentions that she...' (2 marks)

2. What might have happened before this moment? Start your sentence with: 'One possible explanation for the scene is... I infer this because...' (2 marks)

3. How does Nova's body language convey her mood? Start your sentence with: 'Nova's physical actions, specifically her ruffled feathers and tapping talon, suggest...' (2 marks)

4. What does this tell us about Nova's personality? Start your sentence with: 'This reaction implies that Nova is a character who values...' (2 marks)

5. Predict what Nova will do next. Start your sentence with: 'Based on the clues provided, I anticipate that Nova will...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph describing a second character entering the room. Show, don't tell, how they feel about Nova's discovery using only their actions and the environment, without using emotion words like 'sad' or 'angry'.