

Mastering Paragraphs with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To understand how to organise paragraphs using fronted adverbials and cohesive devices to create a fluent narrative.

Read the passage about Pip's journey through the Great Library. Pay close attention to how the paragraphs change to reflect a new setting or a shift in time. Answer the questions below, ensuring you use full sentences and precise vocabulary.

Pip the caterpillar adjusted his tiny spectacles as he entered the Grand Archive. The scent of ancient parchment and dust filled the air, tickling his nose. He had travelled for three days across the vast mahogany bookshelf, carefully navigating the spines of dusty encyclopaedias. Today was the day he would finally locate the legendary Golden Dictionary, a book said to contain every word ever whispered by the wind. With a determined wiggle, he climbed the final shelf.

Suddenly, the atmosphere shifted. A soft, golden glow pulsed from behind a stack of forgotten maps. Pip froze, his heart racing against his silky thorax. He had spent months dreaming of this moment, yet the reality was far more magnificent than he had anticipated. Instead of a dusty tome, he found a glowing, crystalline cube hovering in mid-air. He reached out, his curiosity overriding his caution. As his small feet touched the surface, the room erupted in a gentle hum of knowledge, and the history of the world began to unfold in shimmering, colourful projections.

Word bank: Chronological · Cohesion · Transition · Atmospheric · Narrative · Sequence · Adverbial · Perspective

1. Identify the primary function of the second paragraph. Explain how the author uses a shift in setting to signal the start of this new paragraph. (2 marks)

2. Find and copy one fronted adverbial used in the text. Why does the author use this to enhance the flow of the narrative? (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the mood of the first paragraph with the mood of the second paragraph. Use evidence from the text to justify your answer. (3 marks)

4. What might happen if the author had written this story as one single, long paragraph? Explain the impact this would have on the reader. (3 marks)

5. Justify why it is important for a writer to begin a new paragraph when the 'focus' of the story changes. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw the moment Pip discovers the Golden Dictionary. Think about how you can use light and shadow to show the 'golden glow' mentioned in the second paragraph.



Extension challenge: Write a third paragraph to continue the story. You must use at least one fronted adverbial and ensure the paragraph focuses on Pip's emotional reaction to the discovery. Your paragraph should act as a smooth transition from the mystery of the second paragraph to a new action.