Year 3 English Assessment: Character Description

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases, adjectives, and interesting verbs to describe a character's appearance and personality.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below. Use your best handwriting and check your spelling.

Nova the barn owl sat perched on the highest branch of the ancient oak tree. Her feathers were the colour of soft, pale cream, speckled with tiny flecks of silver that caught the moonlight. She wore a pair of small, round spectacles perched right on the tip of her beak. Nova was known throughout the forest for her brilliant mind. Whenever a mystery needed solving, she would tilt her head to the side, blink her large, amber eyes, and ask a question that made everyone stop and think.

Word bank: shimmering · curious · spectacles · glistening · enthusiastic · velvety · determined · vibrant

1. Find two adjectives in the text used to describe Nova's feathers. (2 marks)

2. What item does Nova wear on her face, and what does this suggest about her personality? (3 marks)

3. Identify one action Nova performs that shows she is a curious character. (2 marks)

4. The author describes Nova’s eyes as 'large, amber eyes'. Why do you think the author chose the word 'amber' instead of just saying 'brown'? (3 marks)

5. Rewrite the following sentence to include an expanded noun phrase: 'Nova looked at the stars.' (2 marks)

6. Think of another BookFlik character, such as Max the monkey or Pip the caterpillar. Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing what they look like and one thing they enjoy doing. Use at least two adjectives and one interesting verb. (8 marks)

7. Why is it important to use 'show, don't tell' when writing a character description? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Nova the barn owl based on the description in the passage. Label her features using adjectives from the word bank.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a diary entry from Nova's perspective about a mystery she solved today using at least five descriptive adjectives.