A Celebration of Light: Writing About Diwali

Learning objective: To write a descriptive account of the festival of Diwali using appropriate vocabulary and structure.

Use the prompts below to help you write your own account of Diwali. Remember to include details about the traditions, the food, and the meaning of the festival.

As the sun began to set, the street outside glowed with the warm, flickering light of hundreds of tiny clay lamps.

Word bank: celebration · festival of light · divas · rangoli patterns · delicious · tradition · furthermore · in addition · symbolise · victory of good over evil · excitedly

1. Introduction: What is Diwali and why is it known as the 'festival of light'? Start your paragraph with: Diwali is a special festival that... (2 marks)

2. The Decorations: Describe the rangoli patterns and the divas. Start your paragraph with: To prepare for the celebration, families create... (2 marks)

3. The Food and Family: What kind of food might be shared during the festival? Start your paragraph with: One of the best parts of Diwali is... (2 marks)

4. The Meaning: Why do people celebrate this festival? Start your paragraph with: Diwali is important because it represents... (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: How does it feel to be part of the festivities? Start your paragraph with: Watching the lights shine in the dark makes me feel... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Zara the Zebra wants to see your creativity! On the back of your sheet, design a colourful rangoli pattern using symmetry, just like the ones seen during Diwali.