Crafting Character: The BookFlik Gallery

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases and precise adjectives to create vivid character descriptions.

Max the monkey is organising a gallery of characters for his new storybook. Read the character 'clues' below. Your task is to select the perfect adjectives and noun phrases from the word bank to complete the descriptions. Each description must help the reader visualise the character's personality and appearance.

Word bank: shimmering iridescent · meticulously organized · weather-beaten · mischievous · emerald-green · thoughtful · gossamer-thin · dignified · tattered · boundless

1. 1. 'Captain Barnaby is a [blank] sailor. His [blank] coat tells the story of many years spent navigating stormy seas.' (Fill in the blanks and explain why these choices describe a character who has travelled a lot.) (2 marks)

2. 2. 'Elara the Inventor possesses [blank] energy. Her workshop is a [blank] space where every cog and spring has a specific home.' (Fill in the blanks and suggest one verb that shows Elara is busy working.) (2 marks)

3. 3. 'The forest sprite has [blank] wings that catch the light like oil on water. With an [blank] gaze, she watches over the ancient oaks.' (Fill in the blanks and describe how this makes the sprite seem magical.) (2 marks)

4. 4. Write your own character sentence for Leo the Lion using at least two adjectives from the word bank that show he is a calm leader. (2 marks)

5. 5. Why do writers use 'expanded noun phrases' (like 'shimmering iridescent wings') instead of just saying 'shiny wings'? Explain the effect on the reader. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw your own original character based on one of the descriptions above. Add labels using descriptive adjectives to point out three key features (e.g., 'worn-out boots' or 'twinkling eyes').

Extension challenge: Choose a family member or friend and write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing them as if they were a character in an adventure book. Try to use at least one metaphor and two expanded noun phrases.