Crafting Compelling Characters: A Grade 5 Writing Frame

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

Follow the prompts below to build a detailed character profile. Think about how your character moves, what they wear, and the secret personality traits that make them unique. Use your word bank to add detail and flow to your sentences.

As the morning mist began to clear, a mysterious figure emerged from the dense woodland, their silhouette casting a long, curious shadow against the ancient oak trees.

Word bank: distinctive · faded · meticulously · vibrant · an aura of · glinting · consequently · whilst · nevertheless · tattered · radiating · inquisitive

1. Physical Appearance: Describe the character's clothing and accessories. Start with: Clad in garments that told a story of many travels, the character... (2 marks)

2. Facial Features: Focus on their eyes or expression. Start with: Their eyes, which seemed to hold a thousand secrets, always... (2 marks)

3. Movement and Posture: How do they walk or hold themselves? Start with: Moving with an air of deliberate grace, they... (2 marks)

4. Personality and Quirk: What is one habit or personality trait that makes them special? Start with: Most people overlooked the fact that they... (2 marks)

5. The Hidden Detail: Add a relative clause to explain an object they carry. Start with: Tucked safely into their pocket was a small, tarnished locket, which... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine your character encounters Max the monkey. Write a short paragraph describing how they would react to Max's energetic math puzzles using at least one semicolon to join two independent clauses.