

A Snowy Surprise: A Christmas Story Quiz

Learning objective: To demonstrate comprehension of narrative structure, character motivation, and descriptive language in a festive story.

Read the story below carefully, then answer the questions that follow in full sentences. Use the word bank to help you with your answers.

The village of Winterton was quiet, draped in a thick, soft blanket of snow. Pip the caterpillar sat on a pine branch, watching the villagers hang twinkling fairy lights. In the centre of the square stood a grand tree, beautifully decorated with baubles and ribbons. Ellie the elephant was there too, using her trunk to carefully place a gold star at the very top. The air was filled with the smell of cinnamon and pine. Ellie remembered stories from long ago about the village's tradition: every Christmas Eve, the residents would leave small, wrapped gifts under the tree for those who might need a little extra cheer. Pip felt a warm glow of anticipation. It wasn't about the presents themselves, but the act of kindness that made the atmosphere so magical. As the clock struck six, the village square began to sparkle as the lights flickered to life, turning the cold evening into a warm, shared celebration.

Word bank: festive · generosity · atmosphere · decorated · anticipation · sparkling

1. How does the author create a festive atmosphere at the beginning of the story? (2 marks)

2. What is the special tradition that Ellie the elephant remembers about Winterton's Christmas Eve? (2 marks)

3. Why does Pip feel a 'warm glow' even though the weather is cold and snowy? (2 marks)

4. Find and copy one adjective from the text that describes the village tree. (1 mark)

5. Explain why the author says the gifts are about 'generosity' rather than the objects themselves. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw the village square of Winterton exactly as you imagine it, including the decorated tree, the snow, and the twinkling lights.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph describing a new tradition that Pip and Ellie might start for the animals of the forest next Christmas. Think about how they could include everyone.