

An Adventure in the Whispering Woods

Learning objective: To use descriptive language and expanded noun phrases to create an engaging narrative setting.

Read the passage below about Pip the caterpillar's journey. Then, answer the questions to show how you can use language to paint a picture in the reader's mind.

Pip the caterpillar crawled slowly along a thin, winding branch. Above, the sun filtered through the thick leaves, creating patterns of light on the forest floor. The trees seemed to lean in, as if they were sharing secrets with one another. Pip paused, looking up at the vast, green world that stretched out before him. He could hear the soft rustle of wings and the gentle hum of the woods waking up.

Word bank: shimmering · majestic · emerald · whispering · dappled · canopy · tangled · mysterious

1. Find two adjectives in the passage that describe the forest. Can you think of two more descriptive adjectives you could use to describe the trees? (2 marks)

2. Pip describes the trees as if they are 'sharing secrets'. What is this technique called, and why does it make the story more interesting for the reader? (2 marks)

3. Rewrite this sentence to make it more descriptive: 'Pip saw a bug.' Use an expanded noun phrase. (2 marks)

4. The author uses the phrase 'dappled light'. Based on the context of the story, what do you think 'dappled' means? (1 mark)

5. If you were writing a story about Pip finding a hidden treasure in the woods, what would the treasure be? Describe it using at least three adjectives. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw the secret forest where Pip is exploring. Make sure to include the 'dappled' light and at least two of the items you described in your answer to question five.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing a new character Pip meets in the woods. Use a simile to describe how they move (e.g., 'as quick as a flash' or 'as steady as a mountain').