

# Unleash Your Inner Author with Max and Pip

*Learning objective: To use fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases to create vivid, descriptive settings for a story.*

Read the story starter below. Look for the 'show, don't tell' moments where the author describes how a place feels rather than just naming it. Use the word bank to help you write the next paragraph of the adventure.

Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar stood at the edge of the Whispering Woods. The trees stretched upwards like giant, gnarled fingers reaching for the clouds. Behind them, the sun began to dip below the horizon, casting long, golden shadows across the mossy path. 'We must be careful,' Pip whispered, his tiny legs trembling with excitement. Max adjusted his magnifying glass, his eyes scanning the thick, tangled ferns for any sign of the hidden trail. Everything here smelled of damp earth and adventure.

*Word bank: shimmering · ancient · whispering · emerald · mysterious · glistening · silently · cautiously*

**1. Find and copy one expanded noun phrase from the passage that describes the trees. (2 marks)**

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**2. Which fronted adverbial is used in the first paragraph to tell us when the scene is taking place? (1 mark)**

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**3. Why do you think Max is using a magnifying glass? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (2 marks)**

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**4. If you were writing this story, what might Max and Pip find in the woods? Use one word from the word bank in your answer. (2 marks)**

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**5. Rewrite this simple sentence to make it more descriptive: 'The monkey walked on the path.' (2 marks)**

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**Draw:** Draw what you think the 'Whispering Woods' looks like. Make sure to include the giant trees and the mossy path described in the story.



*Extension challenge: Challenge: Write a short dialogue between Max and Pip where they discover a magical object. Can you include a fronted adverbial at the start of one of your sentences?*