

# Mastering the Art of Joining: Handwriting with Pip

*Learning objective: To practise writing legible, joined-up handwriting, focusing on consistent size and spacing to meet Year 4 expectations.*

Pip the bookworm caterpillar has been practising his loops and flicks! Follow these steps to improve your handwriting. 1. Read the passage below about Pip's library adventure. 2. Copy the passage into your neatest joined-up handwriting, ensuring your ascenders (like b, d, h, k, l) and descenders (like g, j, p, q, y) are clear. 3. Remember to keep your letters the same height and check your spacing between words.

Pip the caterpillar loves to explore the dusty shelves of the old library. He moves slowly along the spines of the books, searching for his favourite words. Today, he found a story about a shimmering forest where the trees glowed at night. Pip carefully copied the title into his tiny notebook, making sure his letters were joined neatly together.

*Word bank: adventure · caterpillar · flick · joined · legible · practice · ascender · descender*

**1. Why does Pip move slowly along the shelves of the library? (2 marks)**

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**2. Copy the word 'caterpillar' from the passage. Ensure your letters are joined and check that the 'p' and 'l' are formed correctly. (2 marks)**

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**3. What is an 'ascender'? Give one example from the passage that is not mentioned in the instructions. (2 marks)**

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**4. Look at your handwriting for the word 'shimmering'. Did you manage to join all the letters? If not, try writing it again here. (1 mark)**

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**5. Why is it important to have clear, joined-up handwriting when writing in a notebook? (2 marks)**

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**Draw:** Draw a picture of Pip the caterpillar wearing his tiny glasses and reading a book that is much bigger than he is.



*Extension challenge: Write a sentence of your own about a library adventure, including at least two words with an ascender and two words with a descender, ensuring all letters are joined correctly.*