

## Detective Work with Pip the Bookworm

*Learning objective: To develop inference skills by using clues from the text to understand a character's feelings and actions.*

Read the short story below carefully. Remember, an inference is when you 'read between the lines'—using the clues in the text and what you already know to work out things that aren't explicitly stated. Write your answers in full sentences.

Pip the bookworm sat on the edge of a giant oak leaf, his tiny glasses perched precariously on his nose. He flipped through the pages of a dusty, ancient book, his many feet tapping an impatient rhythm against the stem. Every few seconds, he glanced up at the darkening sky and sighed, a small puff of air escaping his lips. He folded the leaf over to mark his page, tucked the book into his velvet satchel, and scurried towards his hollow log. As he went, he pulled his knitted scarf tighter around his neck, even though the evening breeze was only a gentle whisper.

*Word bank: evidence · inference · clue · character · atmosphere · emotion*

**1. How is Pip feeling at the beginning of the passage? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (2 marks)**

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**2. What do you think is happening to the weather? Give a reason for your answer. (2 marks)**

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**3. Why did Pip tuck his book into his satchel instead of leaving it on the leaf? (2 marks)**

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**4. Is Pip usually a messy or tidy reader? Explain your reasoning using a clue from the text. (2 marks)**

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**5. What do you think Pip's favourite hobby is, and how can you tell? (2 marks)**

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**Draw:** Draw a picture of Pip's cosy home inside the hollow log, including three items that show he loves reading.



*Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph explaining what might happen to Pip once he arrives inside his hollow log. Use at least two pieces of 'implied' information to describe his actions.*