

Paragraph Power with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To understand how to organise writing into clear paragraphs using the TIPTOP rule.

Read the information below about using paragraphs. Then, answer the questions to test your knowledge of how Pip organises his stories.

Pip the bookworm loves to write stories about his adventures in the garden. To make sure his readers can follow along, he uses the TIPTOP rule for his paragraphs. He starts a new paragraph whenever there is a change in Time, a new Idea, a different Place, or a new Topic. When Pip writes about his morning breakfast, that is one paragraph. Once he moves to the afternoon and starts climbing a tall oak tree, he begins a new paragraph because the time and the place have changed. This helps his story stay tidy and easy to read.

Word bank: Time · Idea · Place · Topic · Organisation · Structure · Narrative · Cohesion

1. What does the acronym TIPTOP stand for in the context of writing paragraphs? (2 marks)

2. Why does Pip start a new paragraph when he moves from his breakfast to climbing an oak tree? (2 marks)

3. How do paragraphs help a reader understand a story better? (2 marks)

4. If you were writing a story about a rainy day, when would you start a new paragraph? (2 marks)

5. Look at the word 'cohesion' in the word bank. Why is it important to have cohesion between sentences in a paragraph? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the bookworm sitting on a leaf. Above him, draw two speech bubbles: one bubble showing a scene from his 'morning' paragraph, and the other bubble showing his 'afternoon' paragraph.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about your favourite hobby. Then, write a second paragraph explaining why you enjoy it, ensuring you have used a clear 'topic sentence' to start each one.