

Mastering Paragraphs with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To understand how to organise writing into paragraphs around a theme and use them to signal a change in time, place, or action.

Read the story below about Pip the Bookworm. Notice how the text is divided into three distinct sections. Think about why each paragraph starts where it does, then answer the questions below to show your understanding of paragraph structure.

Pip the Bookworm spent his morning in the Great Library. He carefully crawled across the wooden shelves, searching for a story about ancient mountains. He loved the smell of old paper and the quiet rustle of pages, often spending hours finding the perfect book to start his day.

Suddenly, the sun began to set, casting long, golden shadows across the library floor. Pip knew it was time for his evening meeting with Nova the Owl. He packed his tiny magnifying glass into his leaf-pouch and scurried down the spiralling staircase, ready to share his new findings under the starlight.

When he reached the garden, he found Nova perched on a low branch. They spent the rest of the night discussing the stars and reading poetry aloud. It was the perfect end to a busy day, and Pip felt very lucky to have such a wise friend to learn with.

Word bank: paragraph · theme · structure · introduction · narrative · sequencing

1. What is the main theme of the first paragraph? Why does the author decide to end it before Pip leaves the library? (2 marks)

2. Look at the second paragraph. What signal tells the reader that the setting or time has changed? (2 marks)

3. If you were to add a fourth paragraph, what might it be about? Give one example of a topic you could write about. (2 marks)

4. Explain in your own words why we use paragraphs in our writing instead of just one long block of text. (2 marks)

5. In the third paragraph, what do Pip and Nova do together? Identify the sentence that shows the action. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of Pip's journey from the library to the garden, using arrows to show the two different locations described in the paragraphs.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph of your own describing a new place Pip might visit next, such as a busy market or a quiet pond. Remember to start your paragraph with a sentence that introduces the new setting!