



## Pip and the Wide Blue Sky

*A small bird who is too afraid to fly must find the courage to open his wings and trust the wind.*

Pip was a little bird. He lived in a small nest at the top of an old apple tree. The nest was warm and soft. His mother and his two sisters lived there too. Every morning, the sun came up and filled the nest with golden light. Pip loved his home very much.

But Pip had a problem. He could not fly. His sisters could already fly to other trees, but Pip was scared<sup>1</sup>. The ground looked very far away. When he looked down, his little heart beat fast.

One morning, his mother said, "Today is the day, Pip. You must learn to fly. It is a big adventure<sup>2</sup>, but you can do it."

Pip looked at the wide blue sky. He wanted to fly more than anything. At night, he often had a dream<sup>3</sup> about flying high over the green fields. In the dream, the wind was soft and the world was beautiful. But now, in the real world, he felt afraid.

"I cannot do it," Pip said quietly. "What if I fall?"

His mother smiled. "Be careful<sup>4</sup>, but be brave," she said. "Open your wings and trust them. I will be here."

Pip moved to the edge of the nest. His small feet held the branch tightly. He looked down one more time. Then he closed his eyes and opened his wings.

Suddenly<sup>5</sup>, a soft wind lifted him into the air! For one frightening moment, he dropped. His mother called to him, "Move your wings, Pip! Move them now!"

Pip moved his wings up and down, again and again. And then something wonderful happened. He was not falling anymore. He was flying! The wind held him gently, just like in his dream.

Pip flew over the garden. He saw the red flowers and the tall grass below him. He flew past his sisters, who sang happily for him. The fear was gone now. He began to enjoy<sup>6</sup> every second of it.

"I am flying!" he cried. "I am really flying!"

He flew higher and higher into the warm morning sky. The whole world looked different from up here. The houses were small, and the river looked like a thin silver line. Pip felt free and strong. This was better than any dream.

After some time, Pip felt a little tired. He turned around and flew slowly back to his nest. His mother was waiting for him with a big, proud smile.

"You did it!" she said. "I am so proud of you, my brave little bird."

Pip landed softly next to her. His wings were tired, but his heart was full of joy. He was not scared anymore. He understood now that the most difficult things can become the most beautiful adventure.

That night, Pip looked up at the stars. Tomorrow he would fly again, and the day after that. The whole sky was now his home. And he was no longer afraid of the wide, open world below him.

### Listen to This Lesson

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### Shadowing Mode

Perfect your pronunciation with synchronized audio and word-by-word highlighting.

## VOCABULARY — KEY WORDS FROM THE STORY

#	WORD	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE SENTENCE
1	scared <i>adjective</i>	feeling afraid; frightened of something that might happen	"My little brother is scared of big dogs."
2	adventure <i>noun</i>	an exciting experience where you do something new, often a little dangerous	"Travelling to a new country alone was a big adventure for me."
3	dream <i>noun</i>	the pictures and stories in your mind while you are sleeping; also something you really want for the future	"I had a strange dream about flying last night."
4	careful <i>adjective</i>	giving a lot of attention to what you do so that you do not make a mistake or have an accident	"Please be careful when you cross the road."
5	suddenly <i>adverb</i>	quickly and when you do not expect it	"We were walking in the park when suddenly it started to rain."
6	enjoy <i>verb</i>	to get pleasure from something; to like doing something	"I really enjoy listening to music after work."

## COMPREHENSION — ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

### QUESTION 1 — MULTIPLE CHOICE

Why was Pip different from his two sisters at the start of the story?

- A-) He lived in a different nest
- B-) He was too afraid to fly
- C-) He did not have any wings
- D-) He did not like his mother

### QUESTION 2 — MULTIPLE CHOICE

What helped Pip when he first dropped from the nest?

- A-) His sisters caught him
- B-) A soft wind lifted him into the air
- C-) He landed on a low branch
- D-) His mother flew under him

### QUESTION 3 — SHORT ANSWER

How do Pip's feelings change from the beginning to the end of the story? Use examples from the text.

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## COMPREHENSION ANSWERS

My score today \_\_\_ / 3

Q1 He was too afraid to fly ✓ Correct (B)

The text says, 'His sisters could already fly to other trees, but Pip was scared.' This shows that the sisters could fly but Pip could not because of his fear, not because of any physical problem.

Q2 A soft wind lifted him into the air ✓ Correct (B)

The story says, 'Suddenly, a soft wind lifted him into the air!' Although he dropped for a moment, the wind helped him, and then his mother told him to move his wings.

Q3 **Answer:** At the beginning, Pip is scared and afraid. His heart 'beat fast' when he looked down, and he said, 'I cannot do it.' He was nervous about falling. But after he learns to fly, his feelings change completely. He begins to 'enjoy every second of it' and he feels 'free and strong'. At the end, he is happy, proud, and 'no longer afraid'. So Pip changes from fear to joy and confidence.

**Explanation:** A good answer must clearly show the contrast between two feelings: fear at the start and happiness or confidence at the end. The student should include at least one example from each part of the story (for example 'scared'/'beat fast' for the start and 'enjoy'/'free'/'proud' for the end) to support their idea.

## VOCABULARY — TRANSLATION & NOTES

### scared

We often say 'scared of' something: 'She is scared of the dark.' You can also be 'scared to do' something: 'He was scared to jump.'

### adventure

We often use 'go on an adventure' or 'have an adventure'. The adjective is 'adventurous', for a person who likes new and exciting things.

### dream

Use the verb 'have' with this noun: 'have a dream'. 'Dream' can also be a verb: 'I dream about a big house.' A 'dream job' is the perfect job you want.

### careful

The most common phrase is 'be careful'. The opposite is 'careless'. The adverb is 'carefully': 'She drove carefully in the rain.'

### suddenly

'Suddenly' often starts a sentence to show a surprise in a story. The adjective is 'sudden': 'a sudden noise'.

### enjoy

After 'enjoy', we use the -ing form of the next verb: 'enjoy reading', 'enjoy playing'. We do not say 'enjoy to read'. You can also 'enjoy yourself' to mean 'have a good time'.

### YOUR TURN — SENTENCE BUILDING

Mastery comes from practice. Write original sentences using today's target vocabulary.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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