

Grammar Guru Word Mat

Learning objective: To identify and use fronted adverbials, conjunctions, and expanded noun phrases to improve writing.

Read the word bank to help you complete the sentences. Look carefully at how Max the monkey uses these words to make his maths puzzles more exciting!

Max the monkey was busy counting his collection of shiny pebbles. He found a shimmering golden stone hidden under a leafy fern. Suddenly, he heard a rustling in the bushes. Although he felt a little nervous, he decided to investigate. He crept cautiously towards the noise. Meanwhile, Pip the caterpillar was watching from a nearby branch, wondering if Max would find another treasure.

Word bank: Suddenly · Meanwhile · Although · Because · frighteningly large · shimmering golden · cautiously · Yesterday · however · if

1. Find and copy one fronted adverbial from the passage that tells us when the action happened. (1 mark)

2. Which expanded noun phrase describes the stone Max found? Explain why using adjectives helps the reader. (2 marks)

3. Identify the conjunction used in the second sentence. Is it a coordinating or subordinating conjunction? (2 marks)

4. Write your own sentence about Pip the caterpillar using the fronted adverbial 'Quietly'. (2 marks)

5. Why do you think the author chose to use the word 'cautiously' instead of 'quickly' in the passage? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey discovering his treasure in the forest, and label one noun in your drawing with an expanded noun phrase (e.g., 'the tall, green tree').



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing a secret cave using at least two fronted adverbials and one conjunction from the word bank.