

Max the Mathematical Monkey's Market Day

Learning objective: To identify how paragraphs are used to organise information and group related ideas.

Read the story below carefully. Pay close attention to how the text is divided into paragraphs. Then, answer the questions that follow.

Max the monkey was very excited because it was the day of the Great Forest Market. He had spent all week counting his pocket money, which added up to exactly £12.50. Max loved maths puzzles, so he had already planned his shopping list to make sure he could buy treats for all his friends without going over his budget.

At the first stall, Max visited a friendly squirrel who was selling bags of crunchy acorns. The price was 50p per bag, and Max decided to buy four bags. He carefully counted out £2.00 from his pouch. He liked how the squirrel kept all the nuts neatly sorted into wooden crates, just like how Max liked to sort his sums into columns.

Next, Max skipped over to the fruit stall. He wanted to buy some shiny red apples for Ellie the elephant. The apples cost 30p each, so he bought five of them for £1.50. He felt very proud of his maths skills as he calculated his change. The market was a busy place, but Max felt calm because he had a clear plan for his spending.

Word bank: paragraph · topic · structure · organise · sequence

1. Why has the author started a new paragraph when Max moves from the squirrel's stall to the fruit stall? (2 marks)

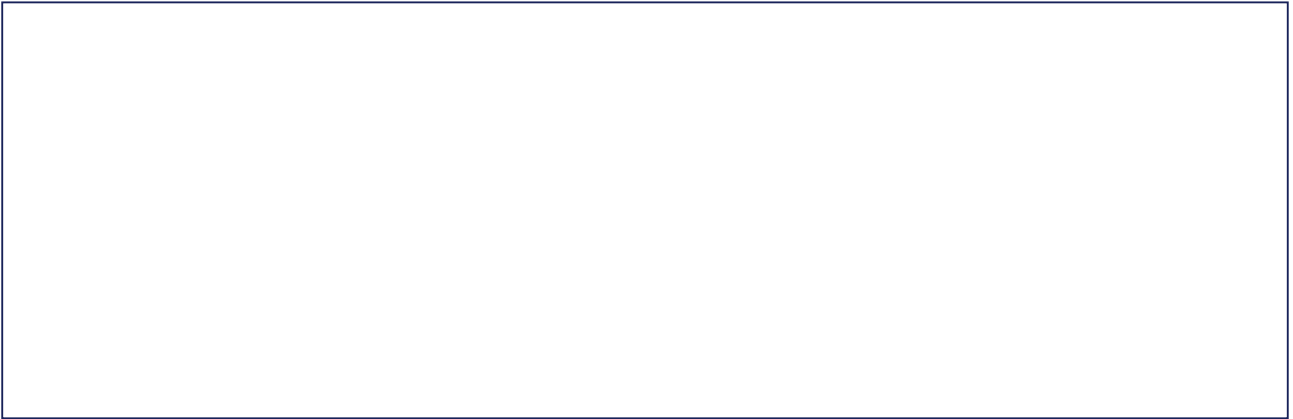
2. What is the main topic of the first paragraph? (1 mark)

3. How much money did Max spend in total on the acorns and the apples combined? (2 marks)

4. If Max had £12.50 to start with, how much money does he have left after buying the acorns and apples? Show your working out. (2 marks)

5. Find and copy one sentence from the text that shows Max enjoys using maths. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey at the market, showing his bag of acorns and his bag of apples. Label the items with their individual prices.



Extension challenge: Write a new paragraph to add to the story about Max visiting a third stall. Make sure your paragraph focuses on one new item and the price, following the same style as the passage.