

Persuading the Park Committee

Learning objective: To identify and use persuasive techniques to write a formal letter.

Read the letter from Max the monkey below. He wants to convince the local council to build a new climbing frame in the community park. Answer the questions that follow to show your understanding of persuasive language.

To the Park Committee, I am writing to you today because our local park is in desperate need of an upgrade. Have you ever seen a monkey who cannot climb? Currently, the park lacks any equipment for active play. A magnificent new climbing frame would encourage children to exercise, gain confidence, and enjoy the fresh air. Imagine the joy on everyone's faces as they reach the top of the frame, feeling like explorers on a grand mountain! It is surely the most important investment our community could make. Please consider this proposal to make our park the best in the country. Yours faithfully, Max the Monkey.

Word bank: persuasive · exaggeration · emotive language · rhetorical question · formal · argument · evidence

1. Identify one rhetorical question Max uses in his letter. Why might he use this technique? (2 marks)

2. Find an example of emotive language in the text. How does it make the reader feel? (2 marks)

3. Max says, 'It is surely the most important investment our community could make.' Is this a fact or an opinion? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

4. Why does Max use formal language like 'Yours faithfully' at the end of his letter? (2 marks)

5. If you were writing to the council, what is one other piece of equipment you would suggest adding to the park and why? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a design for the new 'magnificent climbing frame' that Max described. Include labels to show which parts are for climbing, sliding, or balancing.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) from the perspective of the Park Committee member replying to Max. Use a formal tone to explain whether you agree to build the frame or if you need more information.