

Max's Market Math and Mystery

Learning objective: To retrieve information from a text and make simple inferences about a character's motives.

Read the short story below carefully. Then, answer the questions that follow using evidence from the text.

Max the monkey stood at the edge of the bustling town market. He clutched his small, knitted purse which held exactly £5.00. Max loved the market, not just for the fruit, but for the patterns in the prices. He watched a farmer selling bags of apples for 80p each. Max wanted to buy three bags for his friends, but he needed to calculate if he had enough money. He tapped his chin, counting on his fingers. 'If one bag is 80p, two are £1.60, and three are £2.40,' he whispered. He smiled, knowing he would have plenty of change left over to buy a bunch of bananas for himself. He marched towards the stall with his head held high, ready to make his purchase.

Word bank: enthusiastic · stall · calculate · determined · bargain

1. How much money does Max have in his purse at the start of the story? (1 mark)

2. Why does Max want to buy three bags of apples? (2 marks)

3. Using the text, explain how Max feels about the market. Give one piece of evidence to support your answer. (2 marks)

4. If Max buys three bags of apples for £2.40, how much change will he have from his £5.00? (2 marks)

5. Find and copy an adjective from the text that describes the market. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey standing at the market stall. Show the three bags of apples and the bananas he wants to buy.



Extension challenge: Imagine Max meets Pip the caterpillar at the market. Write two sentences about what Pip might want to buy and why.