

Max the Mathematical Monkey's Sentence Sort

Learning objective: To understand and identify simple, compound, and complex sentence structures.

Read the story about Max below. Then, answer the questions to show how well you understand the different ways we can build sentences.

Max the monkey sat in the tall oak tree. He was counting the golden acorns, and he felt very pleased with his progress. Because Max loved solving puzzles, he decided to organise the acorns into groups of ten. He quickly sorted them into neat piles. Although he was quite hungry, he waited until he finished his maths task. Max smiled at his work. The jungle was peaceful, so he began to write a new sum in the dirt.

Word bank: Simple · Compound · Conjunction · Subordinate · Clause · Complex

1. Find one simple sentence from the passage. Write it down below. (1 mark)

2. A compound sentence uses a conjunction like 'and', 'but', or 'so' to join two ideas. Find one compound sentence in the text and explain which word acts as the conjunction. (2 marks)

3. Look at the sentence starting with 'Because'. Why is this called a complex sentence? (2 marks)

4. Rewrite the sentence 'Max smiled at his work' by adding a conjunction and another clause to make it a compound sentence. (2 marks)

5. Identify the conjunction used in the final sentence of the passage. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey sitting in his oak tree with his piles of acorns, and label your drawing with one simple sentence and one compound sentence.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about your favourite hobby. Try to include at least one simple sentence, one compound sentence using 'because', and one complex sentence starting with 'Although'.