

Mastering Sentence Structures with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To understand and use fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases to add detail to our writing.

Read the passage about Max's jungle adventure. Look closely at how the sentences are built using extra details. Then, answer the questions to show what you have learned about sentence structure.

Early in the morning, Max the monkey swung through the emerald green canopy. With a playful grin, he spotted a delicious, golden banana hanging from a high branch. Swiftly and silently, Max climbed the towering, ancient tree. He reached out his long, furry arm and grabbed his breakfast. Suddenly, he heard a rustle in the leaves below. Patiently, he waited to see who his visitor was.

Word bank: fronted adverbial · expanded noun phrase · comma · adjective · time · place · manner

1. Identify one fronted adverbial used in the passage to show when something happened. (1 mark)

2. Find an expanded noun phrase in the text. Why does adding adjectives like 'emerald green' help the reader? (2 marks)

3. Why is there a comma after the fronted adverbial 'Swiftly and silently'? (1 mark)

4. Rewrite this simple sentence using a fronted adverbial of place: 'Max sat on the branch.' (2 marks)

5. Max wants to buy some fruit for his friends. He has £5.00. If he buys three pieces of fruit that cost 80p each, how much change will he have? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey in the jungle. Label your drawing using at least two expanded noun phrases, such as 'the giant, leafy tree' or 'his bright, orange fur'.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about your own morning routine. Use at least two different fronted adverbials and one expanded noun phrase to make your writing as descriptive as possible.