

Sentence Structure Safari with Max and Pip

Learning objective: To identify and use fronted adverbials, conjunctions, and varied sentence structures.

Read the story passage below carefully. Use your knowledge of Year 4 grammar to answer the questions. Make sure to check your spelling and punctuation.

Max the monkey was busy organising his fruit collection. Carefully, he placed the red apples in a neat row. Because he wanted to be perfectly fair, he split the pile into two equal groups. Pip the caterpillar crawled across a large leaf. She watched Max work, and she wondered if he would share a snack. After the sun began to set, Max finally finished his task. He offered Pip a juicy strawberry, which she nibbled happily.

Word bank: Fronted adverbial · Conjunction · Subordinate clause · Main clause · Comma · Adverb

1. Identify the fronted adverbial in the second sentence of the passage. Why is a comma used after it? (2 marks)

2. Find a conjunction in the passage that links a subordinate clause to a main clause. Write the full sentence below. (2 marks)

3. Rewrite this simple sentence as a complex sentence using the conjunction 'although': 'Max was tired. He finished sorting the fruit.' (2 marks)

4. In the final sentence, identify the relative clause that describes the strawberry. (1 mark)

5. Look at the sentence: 'Pip the caterpillar crawled across a large leaf.' Add a fronted adverbial of time to the start of this sentence to show when it happened. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey's fruit collection. Label the fruit using a sentence that contains a fronted adverbial (e.g., 'On the table, the shiny apples sat waiting.').



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about an adventure Pip and Max might have tomorrow. You must include at least one fronted adverbial, one coordinating conjunction (and, but, or), and one subordinating conjunction (because, if, when).