

Sentence Building with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To use fronted adverbials to improve sentence structure and add detail to our writing.

Read the story about Max the Monkey below. Identify the fronted adverbials (the phrases that tell us when, where, or how an action happened) and then complete the questions to practise your own sentence structure.

Max the Monkey loves to solve puzzles. During the morning, he sits in the tall tree to count the bananas. High above the canopy, he spots a tricky maths problem written on a leaf. Quietly, Max begins to work it out. In the distance, his friend Ellie the Elephant calls out to him. Without a sound, Max swings down to join her for a snack.

Word bank: Quietly · In the distance · Without a sound · During the morning · Every afternoon · High above the canopy

1. Find and copy one fronted adverbial from the passage that tells us when the action happened. (1 mark)

2. Why do you think the author chose to start the final sentence with 'Without a sound'? How does this change the mood of the sentence? (2 marks)

3. Rewrite this sentence by adding a fronted adverbial at the beginning: 'Max climbed the tree.' (2 marks)

4. Why is it important to use a comma after a fronted adverbial? Explain the rule. (2 marks)

5. Create your own sentence about Max finding a hidden treasure. You must include a fronted adverbial and a comma. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey solving a puzzle in the jungle. Add a speech bubble showing what Max might be saying about his maths puzzle.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about your favourite hobby. You must include at least three different fronted adverbials, ensuring you use a comma after each one.