

Sentence Structure Explorers with Max and Pip

Learning objective: To identify and use fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases to add detail to sentences.

Read the story below about Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar. Use the word bank to help you complete the tasks. Remember to check your punctuation carefully!

Max the monkey swung through the jungle canopy. He was looking for his friend Pip. Pip was resting on a leaf. Max spotted a snack. He grabbed the fruit and shared it with Pip. They sat together on a branch.

Word bank: Suddenly · In the distance · Carefully · With a joyful hop · After the rain · bright green · spiky · delicious · enormous

1. Find the second sentence: 'He was looking for his friend Pip.' Rewrite this sentence by adding an expanded noun phrase to describe Pip (e.g., 'his tiny, cheerful friend Pip'). (2 marks)

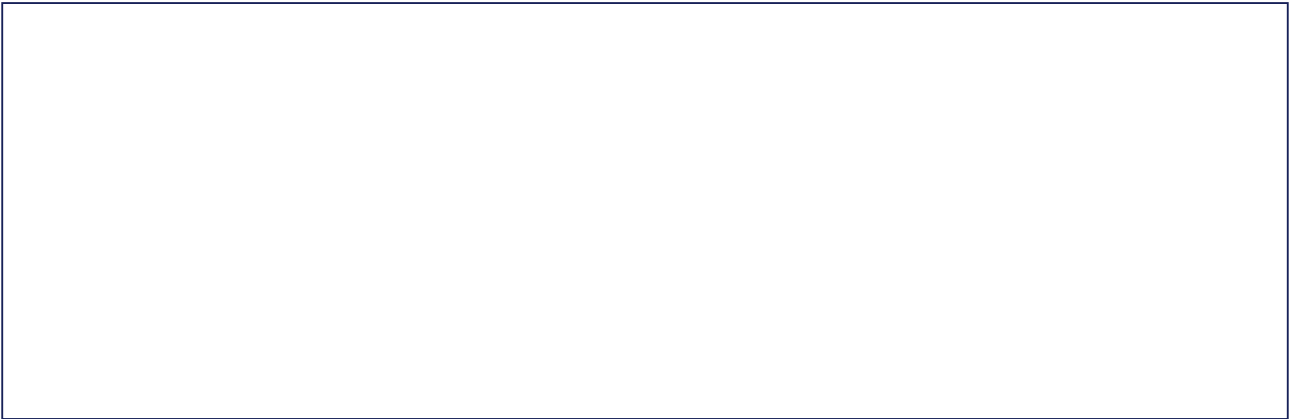
2. Add a fronted adverbial from the word bank to the beginning of the first sentence: 'Max the monkey swung through the jungle canopy.' Remember to add your comma! (2 marks)

3. Look at the sentence: 'He grabbed the fruit.' Rewrite this sentence using an expanded noun phrase to describe the fruit and a fronted adverbial to describe when it happened. (2 marks)

4. Why do we use fronted adverbials in our writing? Explain how they change the way a reader understands the sentence. (2 marks)

5. Change the final sentence ('They sat together on a branch') into a complex sentence by adding a subordinate clause starting with 'while' or 'because'. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max and Pip sharing their snack in the jungle. Label your drawing using at least two expanded noun phrases (e.g., 'the tall, winding branch').



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph of three sentences about an adventure you have had. Each sentence must start with a different fronted adverbial and include at least one expanded noun phrase.