

Max the Monkey's Spelling Adventure

Learning objective: To practise spelling words with the 'i' sound spelt with a 'y' (e.g. gym, myth) and common homophones.

Read Max the Monkey's diary entry below. Look closely at the underlined words. Fill in the gaps in the questions using the correct spelling rules, and complete the challenge task at the end.

Today, I went to the local gym to practise my climbing. It was a complete mystery how I managed to reach the top so quickly! I found a shiny crystal hidden in the corner. I started to wonder if the legend of the ancient pyramid was actually a true story, not just a myth. My friends were waiting outside; they're very excited to hear about my discovery. They said they left their bananas over there by the trees.

Word bank: gym · myth · pyramid · crystal · mystery · their · there · they're

1. Identify two words from the passage that use the letter 'y' to make an 'i' sound. Explain why these are tricky to spell. (2 marks)

2. Look at the words 'their', 'there', and 'they're'. Write a sentence using each one correctly to show you understand the difference. (3 marks)

3. Max found a 'crystal'. If you were to add the suffix '-ised' to the root word 'crystal', how would you spell the new word? (1 mark)

4. Find the word 'mystery' in the text. Can you change it into an adjective by replacing the 'y' with 'ious'? (1 mark)

5. Why does Max think the pyramid story might be a 'myth'? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey inside the ancient pyramid, holding the glowing crystal he found.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about a secret treasure hunt using at least four words from the word bank and two different homophones from the 'their/there/they're' group.