

Year 4 English: Mastering Punctuation

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding and application of full stops, commas, inverted commas, apostrophes for possession, and apostrophes for contraction.

Read each question carefully. Use your best handwriting and ensure your punctuation is clear. You have 45 minutes to complete this assessment.

Max the monkey was busy sorting his fruit collection. He shouted, 'These bananas are mine!' Pip the caterpillar watched from a leaf. Pip noticed that Max's pile of fruit was growing. They were going to share the snacks, but they hadn't finished sorting them yet.

Word bank: Apostrophe · Contraction · Possession · Inverted commas · Clause · Direct speech

1. Find two examples of words in the passage that use an apostrophe for contraction. Write them below and explain what they stand for. (2 marks)

2. Look at the sentence: 'Max's pile of fruit was growing.' Explain why the apostrophe is used in the word 'Max's'. (2 marks)

3. Add the missing commas to this sentence: 'Pip gathered apples pears plums and berries for the picnic.' (2 marks)

4. Rewrite the following sentence by adding inverted commas in the correct places: Leo the lion said I think we should go on an adventure today. (3 marks)

5. Explain the difference between using an apostrophe for contraction and using an apostrophe for possession. Give one example of each. (4 marks)

6. Read the following sentences: 'The sun was setting. Nova looked up at the stars.' Combine these two sentences into one using a conjunction and a comma. (2 marks)

7. Extended Writing Task: Write a short story (approx. 50-70 words) about Kit the fox finding a mysterious map. You must include at least one example of direct speech (using inverted commas), one contraction, and one possessive apostrophe. (10 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene where Pip the caterpillar is helping Max the monkey organise his fruit, making sure to label one item using an apostrophe for possession (e.g., 'Max's apple').



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Can you write a sentence that uses both a comma and an exclamation mark to show excitement?