

Max's Market Mystery

Learning objective: To develop retrieval, inference, and evaluative skills through a short narrative text.

Read the story below carefully and answer the questions. Use full sentences where appropriate.

Max the monkey was feeling particularly enthusiastic today as he bounced towards the town market. He clutched his small, woven basket tightly, ready to put his maths skills to the test. He needed to buy ingredients for a fruity feast. First, he stopped at a fruit stall to pick up six juicy apples for £2.40. Next, he visited a local farmer to buy a bunch of bananas for £1.80. Max tapped his chin, performing a quick calculation in his head to make sure he stayed within his £5.00 budget. He noticed the market was bustling with activity; people were laughing, traders were shouting their prices, and the smell of fresh bread filled the air. Max enjoyed the challenge of finding the best value for money. After paying with precise, carefully counted coins, he checked his tally one last time. He had spent £4.20 in total, leaving him with 80p in change. With a wide grin, he skipped home, his basket heavy with treats and his mind buzzing with the satisfaction of a perfectly solved puzzle.

Word bank: calculation · stall · bargain · tally · precise · enthusiastic

1. How much did Max pay for the six juicy apples? (1 mark)

2. What was the total amount of money Max spent at the market? (1 mark)

3. How do we know that Max is good at managing his money? (2 marks)

4. Why might the market be a place that Max finds 'buzzing' and exciting? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Max enjoyed his trip to the market? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey standing at a colourful market stall, holding his basket filled with apples and bananas.



Extension challenge: Imagine you have £10.00 to spend at a market. Create a shopping list of three items, write down the price for each, and calculate the total cost and the change you would receive.