

Conjunctions with Max the Maths Monkey

Learning objective: To use a range of coordinating and subordinating conjunctions to extend and clarify sentences.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of conjunctions to join clauses, explain reasoning, or compare ideas. Remember to check your punctuation!

Max the monkey is busy solving mathematical puzzles in the jungle. He uses conjunctions to link his thoughts together so his calculations are clear and accurate.

Word bank: although · because · so · but · while · if · unless · yet · since

1. Max found a pile of bananas, _____ he decided to share them with his friends. Choose the best coordinating conjunction to complete the sentence and explain why you chose it. (2 marks)

2. Combine these two sentences into one using a subordinating conjunction: 'Max finished his maths puzzle.' 'The sun began to set over the canopy.' (2 marks)

3. Write a complex sentence about Ellie the elephant using the subordinating conjunction 'although'. (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast: Explain why the word 'because' functions differently than the word 'but' when linking two clauses. (3 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Is the sentence 'Max counted the coins unless he was tired' grammatically sound? Why or why not? (2 marks)

6. What might happen if you removed all conjunctions from a paragraph of writing? Describe the effect on the reader. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey sitting under a large jungle leaf, surrounded by scrolls of paper filled with maths equations and speech bubbles containing your favourite conjunctions.



Extension challenge: Write a short, persuasive paragraph (4-6 sentences) trying to convince Pip the caterpillar that reading is better than doing maths. You must include at least one coordinating conjunction and two subordinating conjunctions in your argument.