

Expanding Our Descriptions with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To identify and create expanded noun phrases to add detail and description to writing.

Max the Monkey loves to count his fruit, but he needs your help to describe them! Use your knowledge of adjectives and prepositional phrases to expand the simple noun phrases below.

Example: The apple (simple noun phrase) becomes 'The glistening, golden apple on the mossy branch' (expanded noun phrase).

Word bank: glistening · golden · juicy · spiky · tiny · vibrant · in the canopy · on the mossy branch · under the bright sun · with a sweet scent

1. Identify the adjectives and the prepositional phrase in this sentence: 'The tiny, vibrant butterfly with spotted wings fluttered near the flowers.' (2 marks)

2. Expand the simple noun phrase 'the monkey' by adding two adjectives and one prepositional phrase. (3 marks)

3. Rewrite this sentence by adding an expanded noun phrase to describe the 'basket': 'Max carried the basket to the picnic.' (2 marks)

4. Look at the phrase 'the spiky, green cactus'. Is this an expanded noun phrase? Explain how you know. (2 marks)

5. Create an expanded noun phrase to describe a 'waterfall' using at least two adjectives and one prepositional phrase. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey in a rainforest. Label your drawing using at least three different expanded noun phrases, for example: 'the tall, emerald-green tree' or 'the curious, brown monkey with a long tail'.



Extension challenge: Choose an object in your classroom. Write three sentences about it, using a different expanded noun phrase in each sentence to make your description more vivid.