

Max's Paragraph Puzzle: Structuring a Story

Learning objective: To organise paragraphs around a theme and use fronted adverbials to create cohesion.

Max the monkey is trying to write a report about his latest jungle exploration, but he has mixed up all his sentences! Look at the mixed-up sentences below. Your task is to sort them into three distinct, logical paragraphs. Each paragraph must have a clear focus: Paragraph 1 (Setting the scene), Paragraph 2 (The discovery), and Paragraph 3 (Reflecting on the adventure). Rewrite the sentences in the correct order and ensure you include a topic sentence for each.

Word bank: Meanwhile · Suddenly · Consequently · In the distance · Following this · Remarkably · Finally · As a result

1. Sort these sentences into three paragraphs. Sentences: (A) The jungle canopy was thick with emerald leaves. (B) I spotted a hidden waterfall shimmering in the sunlight. (C) It was the most peaceful afternoon I have ever spent. (D) High above the forest floor, I swung through the sturdy vines. (E) I decided to pack my bags and head home before sunset. (F) My heart raced with excitement at such a magnificent sight. (G) The air smelled of damp earth and blooming jasmine. (H) I carefully documented the waterfall in my field notebook. (6 marks)

2. Explain why it is important to start a new paragraph when moving from describing the jungle to describing the discovery of the waterfall. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the tone of Paragraph 1 (Setting the scene) with Paragraph 3 (Reflecting on the adventure). (2 marks)

4. Justify your choice of fronted adverbial for the start of the second paragraph. (2 marks)

5. What might happen to the reader's understanding if all these sentences were written in one single block of text? (2 marks)

6. Choose one fronted adverbial from the word bank and write an additional descriptive sentence to add to Paragraph 2. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a detailed illustration of the hidden waterfall Max discovered, ensuring your drawing reflects the peaceful atmosphere described in your third paragraph.



Extension challenge: Write a short fourth paragraph to conclude the story, introducing a 'maths puzzle' Max might solve while he is walking home. Use at least two pieces of punctuation from the following list: semi-colons, dashes, or brackets.