

Max's Magnificent Market Maths

Learning objective: To add numbers with up to four digits using formal written methods (column addition) and solve multi-step problems involving money.

Read each question carefully. Use column addition to show your working out. Remember to line up your thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones correctly. For money questions, ensure your decimal point is clearly placed.

Max the monkey is visiting the village market to help his friends with their shopping lists. He needs to calculate the total cost of various items and help the stallholders balance their accounts.

Word bank: column addition · regrouping · exchange · total · sum · decimal point · value

1. Max buys a basket of fruit for £12.45 and a bag of artisan bread for £3.75. Calculate the total cost of Max's shopping. (2 marks)

2. At the craft stall, Zara the zebra sells a handmade rug for £2,450 and a set of patterned cushions for £1,385. What is the sum of these two sales? (2 marks)

3. Solve the following calculation: $4,782 + 2,569$. Show your regrouping clearly in your column addition. (2 marks)

4. Kit the fox needs to upgrade his computer equipment. He buys a monitor for £345.50 and a new keyboard for £89.99. Explain why the total cost is less than £450. Use your column addition to justify your answer. (3 marks)

5. Compare the two totals: $(1,200 + 3,450)$ and $(2,100 + 2,550)$. Which total is larger and by how much? Show your comparison. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey standing at a market stall, carefully writing his addition calculations on a clipboard while surrounded by colourful fruit and baskets.



Extension challenge: What might happen if Max misplaces the decimal point when adding £12.50 and £5.20? Explain the impact this error would have on the shopkeeper's balance sheet and justify why place value is essential in financial calculations.