

Max's Big Math Discovery: A Diary Entry

Learning objective: To identify and use the features of a diary entry, including first-person perspective, time adverbials, and informal tone.

Read the diary entry written by Max the monkey. Think about how he feels and how he records his day. Then, answer the questions below to show your understanding of diary writing.

Monday 12th October. Dear Diary, Today was an absolute whirlwind! I spent the morning at the village market with Kit the fox. We had a mission: to calculate the total cost of fruit for our picnic. I found a stall selling apples at 40p each and pears at 55p. It was a tricky puzzle, but I worked out that three apples and two pears would cost exactly £2.30. By the afternoon, I was feeling quite proud of my math skills. Later, I sat under the old oak tree and watched the clouds. I felt so happy that I could use my favorite subject to help my friends. I wonder what puzzles tomorrow will bring?

Word bank: chronological · first-person · adverbial · reflection · informal · sequence · personal

1. Which person is this diary written in (first, second, or third) and how can you tell? (2 marks)

2. Find and copy one time adverbial from the text that helps us know when things happened. (1 mark)

3. Why did Max feel proud of himself in the afternoon? (2 marks)

4. Diaries are often written in a personal, informal tone. Give an example of a word or phrase Max uses that shows his informal, friendly voice. (1 mark)

5. If Max had bought four apples instead of three, how much would the total cost of the fruit be? (Show your working out). (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey sitting under the old oak tree with his notebook, looking thoughtful after his day at the market.



Extension challenge: Imagine you had a busy day today. Write a short diary entry (4-6 sentences) about one thing you did, making sure to include the date, a time adverbial, and your own feelings about the event.