

Max's Maths-Day Diary: A Writing Scaffold

Learning objective: To use the first-person perspective, chronological order, and informal language to write a diary entry, incorporating descriptive details and thoughts.

Imagine you have spent an exciting day helping Max the monkey solve a tricky maths puzzle in the jungle. Use this scaffold to structure your diary entry. Remember to write in the first person (using 'I' and 'my') and include your personal feelings about the day.

Dear Diary, I never expected that my trip to the jungle would turn into a race against time to solve Max's mysterious geometric puzzle.

Word bank: surprisingly · meanwhile · consequently · frequently · as quick as a flash · to my astonishment · the most challenging part was · eventually · furthermore

1. The Introduction: Briefly describe how your day started. How were you feeling before you met Max? Start with: 'My morning began when...' (2 marks)

2. The Main Event: What was the specific maths puzzle Max asked you to help with? Explain the steps you took to solve it. Start with: 'When I arrived, Max was busy trying to...' (3 marks)

3. The Climax: Describe the moment you finally found the solution. How did Max react? Start with: 'Suddenly, I noticed a pattern and realised that...' (3 marks)

4. Reflections: What did you learn from the experience? How do you feel about maths now? Start with: 'Reflecting on the day, I feel...' (2 marks)

5. Closing: Sign off your diary entry with a thought for tomorrow. Start with: 'I wonder what adventure will await me...' (1 mark)

Extension challenge: Try to incorporate a piece of reported speech to show what Max said to you during the puzzle, and use at least two fronted adverbials to improve your sentence flow.