

Max's Market Maths and Grammar Challenge

Learning objective: To identify and use relative clauses, modal verbs, and expanded noun phrases to improve descriptive writing.

Read the short story about Max the monkey visiting the market. Answer the questions below to test your grammar skills.

Max, who loved to solve tricky puzzles, skipped towards the bustling village market. He carried a small, woven basket made of sturdy reeds. 'I might buy some juicy, red apples for my friends,' Max whispered to himself. The stallholder, whose apron was covered in colourful flour, smiled kindly. Max knew he must calculate the total cost carefully. If the apples cost £2.50 and the bananas cost £1.20, he would have exactly enough coins in his pocket. He decided that he could definitely afford a treat for himself as well.

Word bank: relative clause · modal verb · expanded noun phrase · conjunction · relative pronoun

1. Identify the relative clause in the first sentence. Which relative pronoun is used to start it? (2 marks)

2. Find an expanded noun phrase in the passage that describes the basket. What is the adjective and what is the noun? (2 marks)

3. List two modal verbs used in the passage that show possibility or necessity. (2 marks)

4. Rewrite the following sentence using a relative clause: 'The stallholder smiled kindly.' (Hint: Add information about what the stallholder was doing). (2 marks)

5. Max sees a bag of oranges for £3.40. If he adds them to his apples (£2.50) and bananas (£1.20), how much will he spend in total? Write your answer using the £ symbol. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey standing at a market stall. Include a sign showing the prices of fruit in Australian dollars and cents, and try to draw the 'sturdy, woven basket' mentioned in the story.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph describing a new item Max finds at the market. You must include one relative clause, one modal verb, and one expanded noun phrase.