

Max's Magical Punctuation Hunt

Learning objective: To identify and understand the role of full stops, question marks, and exclamation marks in a short text.

Read the story carefully and answer the questions below to show how well you understand how punctuation changes the way we read.

Max the monkey was busy sorting his favourite maths puzzles. He loved to keep his desk tidy. 'Where did I put my blue pencil?' he wondered aloud. He looked under his books and behind his colourful counting blocks. Suddenly, he spotted something shiny near his chair! 'Found it!' Max shouted with joy. He picked up the pencil and twirled it in the air. Max felt very happy because he was ready to solve his tricky sums again. He sat down and opened his notebook. 'Are you ready for a challenge?' he asked his friend Pip. Pip the caterpillar smiled and nodded. Max began to write his numbers carefully. He knew that just like a maths sum needs the right answer, every sentence needs the right punctuation to make sense. He used a full stop to finish his sentences, a question mark when he was curious, and an exclamation mark when he was excited. Max was a clever monkey who took great pride in his work.

Word bank: punctuation · sentence · capital letter · full stop · question mark · exclamation mark

1. Find and copy one sentence from the text that ends with a question mark. (2 marks)

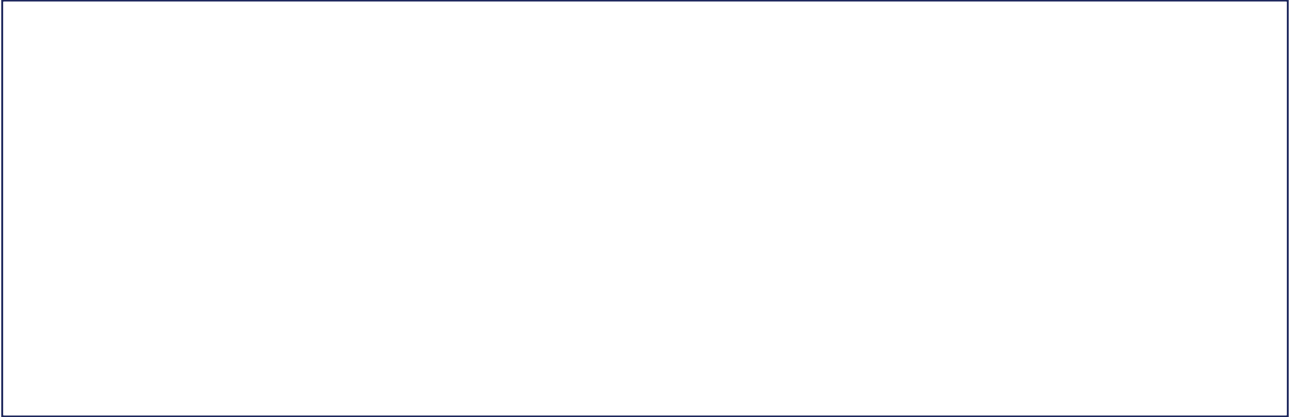
2. What does Max use to finish his sentences when he is excited? (1 mark)

3. Why do you think Max is happy at the end of the story? (2 marks)

4. How can you tell that Max likes to be organised? (2 marks)

5. Do you think it is important to use the correct punctuation when writing? Why? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey at his desk with his counting blocks, showing a speech bubble where he is asking a question.



Extension challenge: Write three of your own sentences. Make sure one ends with a full stop, one with a question mark, and one with an exclamation mark.