

Max's Magnificent Punctuation Adventure

Learning objective: To identify and understand the function of full stops, capital letters, commas, and question marks in sentences.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below. Remember to use full sentences where required.

Max the monkey was busy organising his collection of maths puzzles when he realised something was missing. His notes were a jumble of words! 'Where did I put my pencil?' Max asked, scratching his head. He looked at his desk and saw a messy pile of scribbles. Without punctuation, his work was very confusing. Luckily, Pip the caterpillar arrived to help. 'You need a capital letter to start your sentence,' Pip explained, pointing to the messy page. 'And don't forget a full stop to show when a thought is finished.' Max picked up his pencil and added a comma to separate his list of numbers: 2, 4, 6, and 8. Suddenly, his maths notes looked clear and tidy. He felt proud of his work. 'Do you want to see my new puzzle?' Max cheered, adding a question mark at the end of his sentence. With the right punctuation, his ideas finally made sense. Max learned that punctuation is like a map for reading; it helps everyone understand exactly what you mean.

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

1. What two things does Pip tell Max to use to help make his sentences clearer? (2 marks)

2. Which numbers did Max list in his maths notes? (1 mark)

3. Why did Max feel confused when he first looked at his notes? (2 marks)

4. How does the author show that Max is feeling excited at the end of the story? (2 marks)

5. Do you think punctuation is important when writing a story? Give a reason for your answer. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar working together at a desk. Include a piece of paper on the desk that has a sentence with a clear capital letter, a comma, and a full stop.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about your favourite hobby. Check that you have used at least one capital letter, one full stop, and one question mark correctly.