Max’s Magnificent Sentence Hunt

Learning objective: To identify and understand the components of a sentence, including the subject, the verb, and the use of conjunctions.

Read the story carefully, then answer the questions below using full sentences where required.

Max the monkey was busy sorting his collection of shiny pebbles. He loved to organise things, but today he was trying to build the perfect sentence. Max placed three cards on his log. The first card said 'The monkey', the second said 'climbed', and the third said 'the tree'. When he put them together, he had a complete sentence! 'The monkey climbed the tree,' Max cheered. He knew that a sentence needs a subject, which is who or what the sentence is about, and a verb, which is the action. To make his sentences longer and more exciting, Max decided to add a conjunction. He found a card that said 'because' and another that said 'he was hungry'. Max proudly shouted, 'The monkey climbed the tree because he was hungry!' He realised that adding these special joining words made his writing much more interesting. Max grinned and began to look for more words to connect. He realised that building a sentence was just like solving a maths puzzle; every piece had to be in the right place to make sense.

Word bank: Subject · Verb · Conjunction · Punctuation · Sentence · Structure

1. What two things does Max say a sentence needs to be complete? (2 marks)

2. Which word did Max use as a conjunction to join his two ideas together? (1 mark)

3. Why do you think Max compares building sentences to solving a maths puzzle? (2 marks)

4. How does Max feel about his work in the story? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (2 marks)

5. Do you agree with Max that adding conjunctions makes sentences more interesting? Explain why. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey sitting on a log, holding a card that says 'because'. Show some other cards scattered around him with different words on them.

Extension challenge: Choose two short sentences and use a conjunction (like 'and', 'but', or 'so') to join them into one long, interesting sentence.