

Max and the Magnificent Museum of Maths

Learning objective: To accurately spell words with prefixes and suffixes, and to investigate the spelling of words containing the 'i' sound spelt 'y' in the middle of words.

Read the passage carefully. Identify the target words and complete the grammar and spelling challenges below. Ensure your handwriting is neat and your spelling is precise.

Max the monkey stood in the centre of the Grand Museum, his eyes wide with wonder. He was fascinated by a dusty, ancient pyramid that stood in the main hall. 'This is a mathematical mystery!' he exclaimed, adjusting his spectacles. He tapped his foot to the rhythm of the ticking clocks on the wall. To solve the riddle of the museum, Max had to decipher a strange symbol carved into a stone pillar. He knew that if he kept a systematic approach, he would eventually find the treasure. Suddenly, the wind howled outside like a distant typhoon, but Max was too busy measuring the angles of the statues to notice the weather.

Word bank: gymnastics · myth · mystery · pyramid · rhythm · system · symbol · typhoon

1. Identify two words from the passage that contain the 'y' spelling for the 'i' sound. Why do you think these words might be tricky to spell? (2 marks)

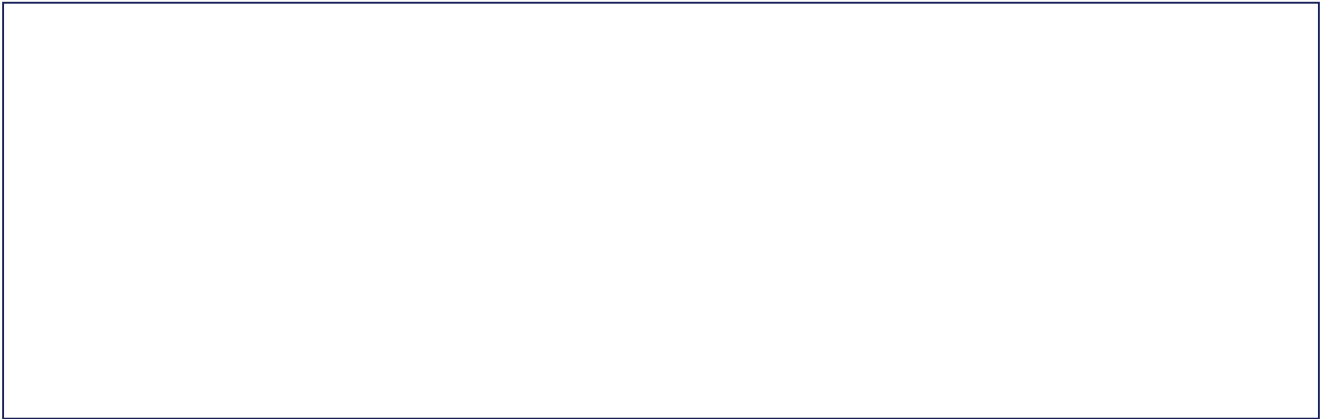
2. Max says, 'I used a systematic approach.' Explain why we add the suffix '-ic' to the root word 'system'. How does the meaning of the word change? (2 marks)

3. Find the word 'rhythm' in the text. Can you identify the silent letter in this word? Why is it considered a difficult word to spell? (2 marks)

4. Compare the words 'myth' and 'mystery'. Justify why both words belong to the same spelling rule group. (2 marks)

5. If a pyramid was built with a base costing £250 and a top section costing £175, what is the total cost? Write the total in words and digits. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey standing in front of the ancient pyramid. Include at least three of the symbols from the museum on the walls surrounding him.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a detective in the museum. Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) describing a new mystery Max has discovered. You must include at least four words from the word bank in your response. What might happen if Max finds the secret door behind the pyramid?