Mastering Subordinate Clauses with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To use subordinate clauses to add extra information to sentences using a range of subordinating conjunctions.

Max the Monkey is trying to solve a puzzle about his day in the jungle. Help him complete his story by using subordinate clauses. Remember: a subordinate clause adds extra detail but cannot stand alone as a sentence. Start your subordinate clauses with the words from the word bank.

Max the Monkey swung through the emerald canopy of the trees, feeling very hungry indeed.

Word bank: although · because · since · unless · while · if · after · even though

1. Paragraph 1: Describing the morning. Start your sentence with the main clause and add a subordinate clause at the end: Max searched for his favourite golden bananas... (2 marks)

2. Paragraph 2: Explaining a challenge. Start your sentence with a subordinating conjunction to create a fronted subordinate clause: [Conjunction] Max climbed to the highest branch... (2 marks)

3. Paragraph 3: Adding detail about the weather. Describe the jungle atmosphere using a subordinate clause: The rain began to fall heavily... (2 marks)

4. Paragraph 4: Conclusion. Explain how Max felt at the end of the day using a subordinate clause: Max felt very happy... (2 marks)

5. Challenge: Look back at your work. Can you underline the subordinate clause in each paragraph and circle the subordinating conjunction? (1 mark)

Extension challenge: Try writing one complex sentence about Max meeting Pip the caterpillar. Use a comma to separate your clauses if you start your sentence with the subordinate clause.