

Max's Word Puzzle Challenge: Verbal Reasoning

Learning objective: To develop verbal reasoning skills by identifying patterns, synonyms, antonyms, and logic within language.

Help Max the monkey solve these language puzzles! Read each instruction carefully. Think about how words relate to one another, whether they mean the same thing, the opposite, or share a hidden pattern. Use the word bank to help you if you get stuck.

Word bank: Enormous · Tiny · Cheerful · Gloom · Swift · Gradual · Gigantic · Joyful

1. Synonym Match: Choose a word from the word bank that means the same as 'Huge' and explain why it is a good fit. (2 marks)

2. Antonym Hunt: Find the opposite of 'Rapid' from the word bank. Write a sentence using both words to show you know the difference. (2 marks)

3. Word Patterns: If 'Happy' becomes 'Cheerful', what might 'Sad' become? Use the word bank to find a pair that matches this 'feeling' pattern. (2 marks)

4. Odd One Out: Look at these three words: Apple, Banana, Carrot. Which one is the odd one out? Explain your reasoning using a full sentence. (2 marks)

5. Logic Puzzle: Max has 3 boxes. Box A has a pear, Box B has a plum, and Box C has a peach. If the plum is not in A or C, where is it? Explain how you solved it. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Create your own 'Odd One Out' puzzle using four items found in a classroom. Can you challenge a partner to solve it?