

Adventures with Max: Mastering Fronted Adverbials

Learning objective: To identify, use, and punctuate fronted adverbials correctly in a sentence.

Read the story below about Max the monkey. A fronted adverbial is a word, phrase, or clause at the beginning of a sentence that describes how, when, or where the action happens. Don't forget to use a comma after the fronted adverbial!

Max the monkey sat in his favourite tree, waiting for his friends to arrive for their daily maths challenge. (1) _____, Max swung from branch to branch to find the best spot. (2) _____, he spotted a pile of shiny pebbles he could use for counting. (3) _____, the other animals gathered beneath him. (4) _____, Max explained the new puzzle he had created using the pebbles. They all cheered for their clever friend.

Word bank: Quickly · Without warning · In the tropical jungle · During the morning · Silently · With great excitement

1. Choose the best fronted adverbial from the word bank to fill in gap (1) and (2) in the passage. (2 marks)

2. Look at this sentence: 'Silently, the group watched Max solve the puzzle.' Identify the fronted adverbial and explain what information it gives the reader. (2 marks)

3. Write your own sentence about Max finding a lost book, starting with a fronted adverbial that tells us 'where' it happened. (2 marks)

4. Why do we place a comma after a fronted adverbial? (1 mark)

5. Rewrite this sentence starting with a fronted adverbial: 'Max calculated the cost of the fruit as £4.50 very carefully.' (2 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey sitting in a tree holding a handful of shiny counting pebbles, with his friends waiting below.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) about an adventure Max has in the jungle. You must include at least two different fronted adverbials: one describing 'when' and one describing 'how'.