

Max's Magnificent Maths Market

Learning objective: To identify and use a range of grammatical features, including relative clauses and modal verbs, within a descriptive text.

Read the text carefully, focusing on how the author uses descriptive language and complex sentence structures. Answer the questions in full sentences.

Max the monkey, who was famously enthusiastic about numbers, decided to organise a magnificent market in the heart of the jungle. He meticulously arranged his stall, which overflowed with shiny golden bananas and succulent mangoes. 'Customers must arrive early if they want the ripest fruit,' Max declared, adjusting his price tags with great precision. Each bunch of bananas was priced at £1.20, while the larger, speckled mangoes cost £2.50. Max believed that a well-organised market might solve the jungle's hunger problem, provided everyone shared fairly. As the sun climbed higher, he calculated the potential profit, wondering if he could earn enough to buy new scales. 'I could certainly help my friends if I manage my budget correctly,' he mused. Nearby, Zara the zebra watched, admiring the symmetrical patterns Max had created with the fruit. She realised that maths was not just about sums; it was an art form that could bring the entire community together. Max's clever organisation proved that when logic meets creativity, even a simple market can become a grand adventure.

Word bank: relative clause · modal verb · subordinate · adverbial · precision · enthusiastic

1. How much does a bunch of bananas cost, and what is the price of the larger mangoes? (2 marks)

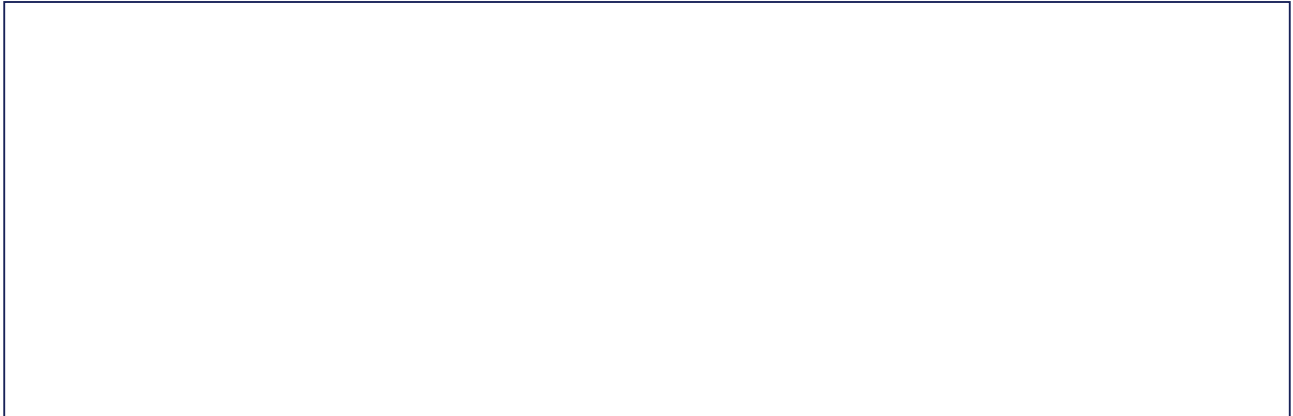
2. Which two characters are mentioned in the passage, and what is each of them interested in? (2 marks)

3. Why does Max feel it is important to organise his fruit stall with such precision? (2 marks)

4. Explain what the author means when they write that Zara saw maths as an 'art form'. (2 marks)

5. Do you agree that Max's market is a good way to help his community? Justify your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey's fruit stall in the jungle, ensuring the fruit is arranged in symmetrical, artistic patterns as described by Zara the zebra.



Extension challenge: 1. Identify the relative clause in the first sentence. 2. Rewrite the second sentence to include a fronted adverbial. 3. Explain why the author chose to use the modal verb 'could' in the penultimate sentence. 4. Compare and contrast Max's approach to the market with how a typical shopkeeper might operate. 5. What might happen if Max decided to change his pricing structure to include discounts for bulk buying? 6. Write a short paragraph describing a new item Max might sell, using at least two expanded noun phrases.