

Max and the Library Treasure Hunt

Learning objective: To correctly identify and understand the use of speech marks (inverted commas) in a narrative text.

Read the passage below carefully. Pay close attention to how the characters speak to one another, then answer the questions that follow.

Max the monkey bounced into the library, his eyes wide with excitement. He held a crumpled map tightly in his paws. 'I have finally found the secret room!' he announced to his friend, Pip. The caterpillar looked up from a thick book and adjusted his glasses. 'Are you certain it is not just another maths puzzle, Max?' Pip asked with a cheeky smile. Max scratched his head, thinking hard. 'It has to be real this time,' Max insisted, pointing at the map. 'Look, there is a giant 'X' right by the history section.' Pip crawled over to the map and studied the ink carefully. 'Perhaps we should ask Ellie for help,' Pip suggested. 'She has an incredible memory and knows every corner of this building.' Max nodded in agreement. 'That is a brilliant idea,' he replied. 'Let us find her immediately!' Together, the two friends scurried towards the history shelves, hoping to solve the mystery of the secret room before the sun set.

Word bank: inverted commas · speech · dialogue · punctuation · narrative

1. What item was Max holding when he entered the library? (2 marks)

2. According to the text, where is the giant 'X' located on the map? (2 marks)

3. Why does Pip suggest asking Ellie for help with the map? (2 marks)

4. How does Max feel about his discovery at the beginning of the story? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (2 marks)

5. Do you think Max and Pip will succeed in finding the secret room? Explain why you think this, using your own ideas. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey showing the map to Pip the caterpillar. Make sure to include speech bubbles for them to say their lines from the story!



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph of 3-4 sentences continuing the story. Remember to use speech marks correctly whenever a character speaks.