

Making Fair Choices: A Moral Dilemma

Learning objective: To understand and discuss moral questions by evaluating different viewpoints and consequences.

Read the passage below carefully, then answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

Max the monkey was walking through the forest when he found a shiny, leather wallet tucked under a fern. He picked it up and opened it to find £20 in cash and a library card belonging to Ellie the elephant. Max felt a sudden rush of excitement. He could use the money to buy a large bag of golden bananas from the market. However, he looked at the library card and remembered how much Ellie loved her books. If he kept the money, he would have a delicious treat, but Ellie would lose her savings and her card. Max sat on a mossy log, tapping his chin. He knew that taking something that did not belong to him was wrong, but he really wanted those bananas. He thought about what Leo the lion, the group leader, would advise. Leo always said that true character is shown by what we do when nobody else is watching. Max sighed, tucked the wallet safely into his bag, and began the walk towards Ellie's house to return it, feeling a warm sense of pride in his choice.

Word bank: Dilemma · Integrity · Consequence · Perspective · Moral · Honesty

1. What items did Max find inside the wallet? (2 marks)

2. Where was the wallet hidden when Max discovered it? (1 mark)

3. Why did Max feel conflicted about what to do with the money? (2 marks)

4. What does the phrase 'true character is shown by what we do when nobody else is watching' suggest about Max's decision? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Max made the right decision? Explain your reasoning using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey standing at a crossroads. On one side, show his temptation (the bananas), and on the other side, show his moral choice (returning the wallet to Ellie the elephant).



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph explaining a time you had to make a difficult choice between what you wanted and what was the 'right' thing to do. How did you feel afterwards?