

Mastering Expanded Noun Phrases with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases effectively to add detail and description to writing.

Read the passage below about Max the Monkey's jungle expedition. Identify the expanded noun phrases, then use the word bank to help you create your own descriptions to make the writing more vivid.

Max the Monkey swung through the forest. He reached for a piece of fruit. Below him, the river flowed towards the sea. Max spotted a stone hidden in the moss. He felt very happy to be exploring his home.

Word bank: dazzling · verdant · glistening · colossal · ancient · shimmering · mysterious · fragrant

1. Identify the noun in the phrase 'the giant, emerald leaves'. What are the two adjectives used to expand this noun phrase? (2 marks)

2. Rewrite the sentence 'Max spotted a stone' by adding two appropriate adjectives to create an expanded noun phrase. (2 marks)

3. Explain why using expanded noun phrases is more effective for a reader than using simple nouns alone. (2 marks)

4. Look at the sentence 'the river flowed towards the sea'. Expand both nouns in this sentence using adjectives from the word bank. (2 marks)

5. Justify your choice of adjectives for the sentence about the river. How do your chosen words change the mood of the scene? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene from Max's jungle expedition. Include at least three items from your story, and label them using expanded noun phrases (e.g., 'the glistening, silver waterfall').



Extension challenge: Imagine Max has discovered a hidden treasure chest. Write a paragraph describing the chest and its contents using at least four different expanded noun phrases. What might happen if the chest belonged to a secret explorer? Compare and contrast the treasure Max found with something you might find in your own garden.