

Mastering Explanation Texts with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To understand, identify, and apply the structural and linguistic features of an explanation text.

Read the questions carefully. Max the Monkey needs your help to explain how things work! Use your knowledge of causal conjunctions, technical vocabulary, and present tense verbs to complete the tasks.

Max the Monkey is designing a complex pulley system to lift his heavy collection of maths puzzles. To explain his invention, he must write a clear, logical explanation text. An effective explanation text uses a title, an introduction, clear paragraphs with numbered steps, and a concluding summary. It relies on present tense verbs and precise, technical vocabulary to ensure the reader understands the process perfectly.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · subsequently · therefore · technical terminology · chronological order · causal conjunctions · present tense

1. Max needs to use causal conjunctions to explain his pulley system. Write two sentences explaining how the pulley works, using at least one causal conjunction (e.g., 'as a result', 'because', 'therefore'). (2 marks)

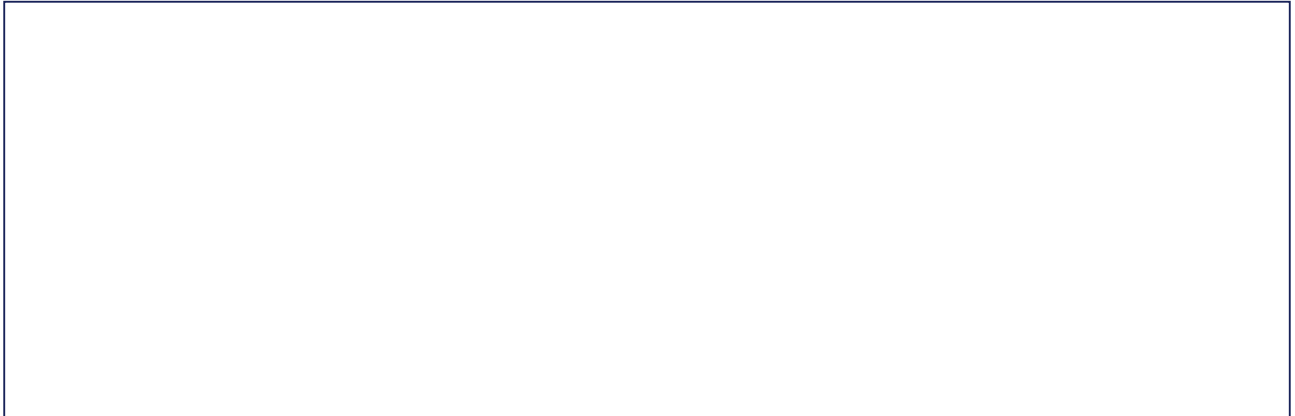
2. Why is it essential for an explanation text to be written in chronological order? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

3. Identify two features of an explanation text that help a reader follow a process. Give an example of why each feature is useful. (4 marks)

4. Compare and contrast a set of instructions (like a recipe) with an explanation text. How are they similar, and how are they different? (3 marks)

5. Justify why using 'technical terminology' is more effective than using simple, everyday language when describing a scientific process. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of a simple machine (like a lever, pulley, or gear) and label its parts using technical vocabulary. Include a small caption box in the corner explaining what the machine does.



Extension challenge: What might happen if an explanation text skipped the introduction or the concluding summary? Write a short paragraph explaining the impact this would have on the reader's understanding of the process.