

The Grammar Explorer's Field Guide: Character Description

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases, relative clauses, and precise adjectives to create a detailed character description.

Help Max the monkey document the new creatures he has discovered on his travels! Use this template to build a vivid character description. Focus on using fronted adverbials to start your sentences and relative clauses (starting with who, which, or whose) to add extra detail. Remember to use ambitious vocabulary to paint a picture in the reader's mind.

Word bank: mysterious · astonishing · vibrant · formidable · graceful · shimmering · meticulously · unexpectedly · consequently

1. Name and Appearance: Introduce your character and describe their physical features using an expanded noun phrase. (3 marks)

2. Personality and Traits: Explain what your character is like. Include a relative clause to tell the reader more about one of their specific habits. (3 marks)

3. The Setting: Describe where this character lives using a fronted adverbial to establish the location. (3 marks)

4. Explain why your character might choose to live in this specific environment. Justify your answer using evidence from your description. (4 marks)

5. Compare and contrast your character with Max the monkey. In what ways are they similar or different? (4 marks)

6. What might happen if your character suddenly moved to the centre of a busy city? Describe the potential consequences. (5 marks)

Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph explaining how you would adapt your character if they had to survive in an underwater habitat. Use at least two modal verbs (e.g., might, could, should) to discuss the changes they would need to make.