

Mastering Parenthesis with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To use brackets, dashes, or commas to indicate parenthesis in a piece of descriptive writing.

Max the Monkey is planning a jungle adventure! Help him write a recount of his day by adding extra information about his surroundings. Use brackets (), dashes —, or commas , to add your own descriptive details (parenthesis) into the sentences provided. Remember, if you remove the information inside the parenthesis, the sentence should still make sense!

Max the monkey climbed the ancient mahogany tree as the sun began to rise over the canopy.

Word bank: furthermore · in addition · surprisingly · interestingly · without warning · specifically · as a matter of fact · however

1. Describe the tree Max is climbing. Start your sentence with: 'The tree, [add parenthesis here], stood tall in the centre of the forest.' (2 marks)

2. Max spotted his friend Pip the caterpillar. Write a sentence about Pip using brackets: 'Pip the caterpillar [add parenthesis here] was munching on a bright green leaf.' (2 marks)

3. The jungle can be noisy. Write a sentence about the sounds using dashes: 'The jungle sounds — [add parenthesis here] — echoed through the thick, humid air.' (2 marks)

4. Max found a shiny object. Write a sentence about it using commas: 'He discovered a golden coin, [add parenthesis here], hidden beneath the tangled roots.' (2 marks)

5. Write a final sentence to conclude the adventure, ensuring you include at least one example of parenthesis. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Look back at your work. Can you rewrite one of your sentences using a different type of punctuation for the parenthesis? For example, if you used brackets, try using dashes instead.