

Max the Math Monkey's Conjunction Challenge

Learning objective: To use a range of coordinating and subordinating conjunctions to extend sentences and improve cohesion.

Max the Math Monkey has mixed up his notes! He needs your help to build complex and compound sentences by selecting the correct conjunctions from the word bank. For each sentence, choose a conjunction that makes the most sense. Some sentences might have more than one correct option, but you must justify your choice if you use a subordinating conjunction instead of a coordinating one.

Word bank: and · but · or · so · because · although · while · if · since

1. Max counted his collection of shiny pebbles. He sorted them by size _____ he had too many to hold. Explain why you chose that specific conjunction. (2 marks)

2. Pip the caterpillar wants to read a new book, _____ the library is currently closed for the evening. (2 marks)

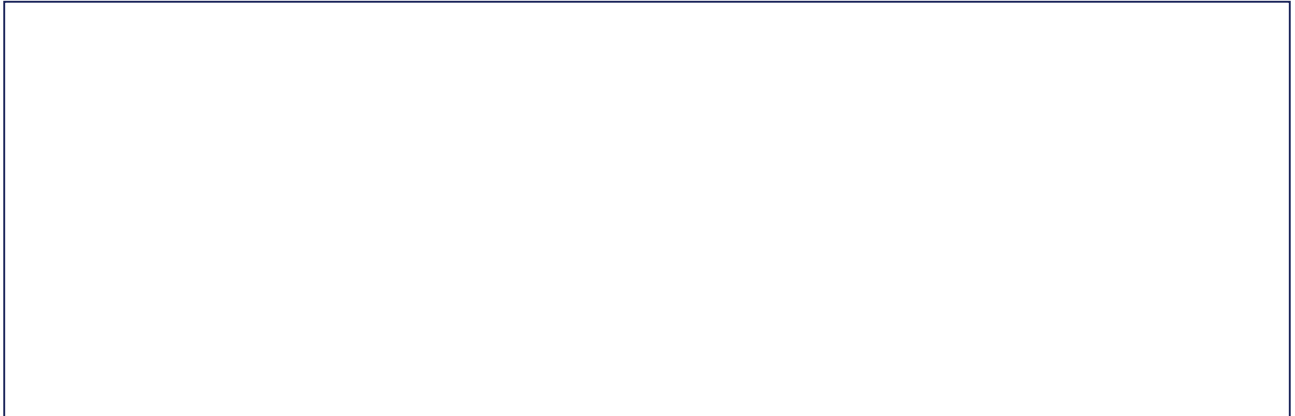
3. Nova the owl will go stargazing tonight _____ the sky remains clear of clouds. (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the effect of using 'but' versus 'although' in this sentence: 'Leo wrote a poem, _____ he felt quite shy about sharing it.' (2 marks)

5. Justify your answer: If you were to replace the conjunction 'so' with 'because' in a sentence, how would the meaning change? Provide an example. (2 marks)

6. What might happen if you removed the conjunction entirely from this sentence: 'Zara painted a portrait while the sun set'? Write the resulting two sentences. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene where Max the Math Monkey is trying to balance a pile of books on one side of a seesaw and a pile of fruit on the other. Add a speech bubble for Max using a sentence that includes the word 'although'.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) describing a day out with two of our characters. You must include at least two coordinating conjunctions and two subordinating conjunctions. Highlight your conjunctions in a bright color!