

Creative Writing with Max the Math-Monkey

Learning objective: To use descriptive adjectives and expanded noun phrases to create an imaginative setting.

Read the story below. Look for the descriptive words that help you imagine the scene. Then, answer the questions to show how you can paint a picture with your own words.

Max the monkey climbed to the top of the Great Banyan Tree. He looked out over the jungle. Below him, the leaves were a vibrant, emerald green. He could see a shimmering river winding through the forest like a silver ribbon. The air felt cool and smelled of sweet jasmine flowers. In the distance, he spotted an ancient stone statue covered in moss. Max took out his notebook. 'What a marvellous puzzle for an explorer to solve!' he cheered, his tail twitching with excitement.

Word bank: shimmering · enormous · ancient · vibrant · whispering · dazzling · mysterious

1. Find two adjectives in the passage that describe the jungle or the river. Why do you think the author chose these words? (2 marks)

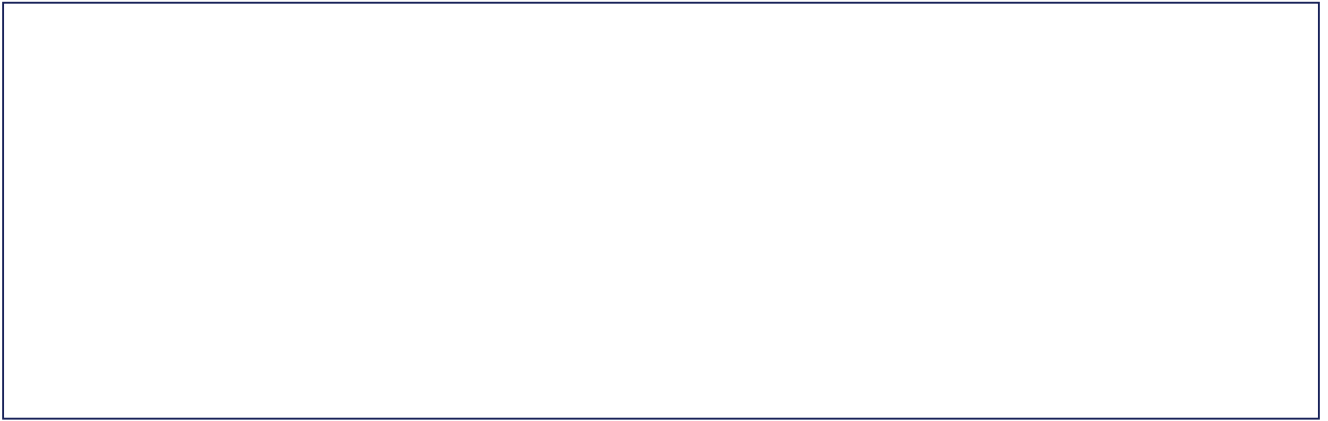
2. Max says the river looks like a 'silver ribbon'. What is this type of comparison called, and why does it help the reader? (2 marks)

3. Write an expanded noun phrase to describe the 'stone statue' using one of the words from the word bank. (1 mark)

4. Imagine you are standing next to Max. What is one sound you might hear in this jungle? Write a full sentence using an adverb. (2 marks)

5. Max thinks the statue is a 'marvellous puzzle'. Write one sentence explaining what he might find hidden behind it. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the scene Max sees from the top of the Great Banyan Tree. Make sure to include the shimmering river and the ancient statue.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing a new, magical object that Max finds inside the ancient statue. Use at least two words from the word bank.