

Crafting Dynamic Descriptions with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases, relative clauses, and fronted adverbials to create descriptive writing.

Max the Monkey loves to solve puzzles, and writing is the biggest puzzle of all! Use this writing frame to build a descriptive paragraph about a mysterious forest. Follow the prompts to build your sentences, making sure to include at least one relative clause and a fronted adverbial.

Deep within the uncharted Whispering Woods, a giant, silver-barked tree stood silently, watching over the forest floor.

Word bank: furthermore · subsequently · deep within the emerald canopy · which stood like an ancient guardian · surprisingly · vibrant · magnificent · in the blink of an eye · who had travelled from afar

1. Setting the Scene: Using a fronted adverbial, describe the atmosphere of the forest. For example: 'Quietly, the shadows stretched across the mossy ground...' (2 marks)

2. Introducing a Character: Describe a creature Max might meet. Use a relative clause to add extra information about them. For example: 'Max spotted a golden squirrel, which was clutching a shiny acorn...' (2 marks)

3. Building Tension: Describe an action taking place. How can you use a subordinating conjunction (e.g., because, although, since) to explain why it is happening? (2 marks)

4. Developing the Senses: Write a sentence about a sound or a smell in the forest. Can you use a powerful verb instead of a boring one? (2 marks)

5. Concluding the Scene: Use a concluding sentence that leaves the reader wondering what happens next. Start with a connective like 'Eventually' or 'Finally'. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you rewrite your paragraph using at least two different modal verbs (such as might, could, or should) to change the tone of your mystery?