

Max's Magnificent Machine: A Guide to Invention

Learning objective: To use imperative verbs, chronological order, and precise technical vocabulary to create a labelled instructional diagram.

Follow the steps below to design your own invention. Use imperative verbs (bossy words) to explain how your machine works. Remember to include a clear sequence for the user to follow.

Draw: Draw a large, detailed invention in the center of your page. Use a technical, 'blueprint' style: use a ruler for straight lines and fine-tip pens for detail. Ensure you include at least four distinct moving parts, such as gears, levers, or springs. Use arrows to show the direction of movement or the flow of energy. Surround your machine with clear, neat labels connected by straight lines to the specific components.



Label words: Lever · Mechanism · Pivot · Activation button · Power source · Output tray · Safety casing · Calibration dial

Steps:

1. List three imperative verbs you could use to start your instructions (e.g., Attach).
2. Why is it important to use chronological order when writing instructions? Explain your reasoning.
3. Label the power source on your drawing. Why does your machine require this specific power source?
4. Justify your choice of materials for the machine's exterior. How do they keep the user safe?

5. Compare and contrast your machine with a standard calculator. How is yours more helpful?
6. What might happen if a user skips step 2 of your instructions? Predict the consequence.