

Mastering Parenthesis with Max the Math-Monkey

Learning objective: To use brackets, dashes, or commas to indicate parenthesis in Grade 4 writing.

Max the monkey is organising his collection of puzzle pieces and needs your help to add extra detail to his notes. Read the sentences below. For each one, rewrite the sentence adding an extra piece of information (parenthesis) about the subject. You must use a pair of commas, a pair of brackets, or a pair of dashes to separate your added information from the main clause. Max has provided a word bank of extra details you can use to help him!

Word bank: a talented acrobat · who lives in the tall oak tree · my favorite snack · which was very heavy · a bright yellow color · a clever problem-solver

1. 1. Max picked up the puzzle piece. (Add parenthesis about the piece) (2 marks)

2. 2. The monkey reached for a banana. (Add parenthesis about the banana) (2 marks)

3. 3. Nova the owl watched from above. (Add parenthesis about Nova) (2 marks)

4. 4. Kit the fox solved the riddle. (Add parenthesis about Kit) (2 marks)

5. 5. Ellie carried the heavy box. (Add parenthesis about the box) (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey wearing a thinking cap, surrounded by puzzle pieces that have little labels attached to them with commas or brackets.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about your day at school. Include at least two examples of parenthesis: one using brackets and one using dashes. Make sure your sentences still make sense if you remove the information inside the parenthesis!