

Grade 4 Assessment: The Power of Persuasion

Learning objective: To identify, analyze, and apply the features of persuasive writing effectively.

Read the text carefully and answer all questions. Ensure you use formal language and clear reasoning.

Max the monkey is organising a 'Save the Ancient Oak Tree' campaign. He has written this leaflet for his friends: 'Are you tired of seeing our beautiful forest turn into grey, lifeless concrete? Our magnificent Ancient Oak Tree is the heart of our community. It provides shelter, shade, and endless joy for every creature. If we allow this tree to be cut down, we will lose a piece of our history forever. You must act now! Join us at the town square this Saturday to show your support. Surely you want to be a hero for our home? Together, we can stop this disaster and save our precious tree!'

Word bank: Emotive language · Rhetorical question · Exaggeration · Modal verb · Persuasive · Direct address · Opinion

1. Identify two examples of emotive language used in the passage. (2 marks)

2. Find one rhetorical question in the text. Why does Max use this technique? (3 marks)

3. What is the purpose of the phrase 'You must act now!'? Which word class is 'must'? (3 marks)

4. Why does Max include the phrase 'every creature' in his writing? How does this persuade his audience? (4 marks)

5. Explain how the tone of the text changes from the beginning to the end. Use evidence from the passage. (4 marks)

6. Imagine you are helping Max. Write a short persuasive paragraph (4-6 sentences) encouraging others to donate £5 towards planting new saplings in the forest. Use at least two persuasive techniques. (9 marks)

Draw: Draw a poster to accompany Max's campaign. Include a slogan and an illustration that clearly shows why the Ancient Oak Tree is important to the forest animals.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a counter-argument paragraph from the perspective of a builder who needs to clear the land. Can you use persuasive language to make the reader agree with the building project instead?