

Grade 4 Punctuation Mastery Assessment

Learning objective: To demonstrate accurate use of commas, brackets, dashes, apostrophes for possession, and inverted commas in formal and creative writing.

Read each question carefully. Ensure your punctuation is clear and your spelling follows British ELA conventions. You have 45 minutes to complete this assessment.

Max the monkey sat in the ancient oak tree. He had been calculating the cost of fruit for the animal picnic. 'I have spent £12.50 on bananas,' Max announced, 'and the apples cost £8.75.' Pip the caterpillar, who was currently reading a book about leaves, looked up from his branch. 'That sounds like a fair price, Max,' Pip replied.

Word bank: Possession · Parenthesis · Inverted commas · Relative clause · Cohesion

1. Identify the two sentences in the passage that use inverted commas. Explain why they are necessary in this text. (2 marks)

2. Rewrite this sentence using a pair of brackets to add extra information about Pip: 'Pip the caterpillar was reading a book about leaves.' (2 marks)

3. Add the missing apostrophes to these sentences to show possession: 1. The monkeys banana was ripe. 2. The birds wings fluttered in the breeze. (2 marks)

4. Insert a dash into the following sentence for dramatic effect: 'Nova the owl stared at the night sky she saw a shooting star.' (2 marks)

5. Explain the difference between using a comma to separate items in a list and using a comma after a fronted adverbial. Give an example for each. (4 marks)

6. Rewrite the following paragraph to include a relative clause, a pair of commas for a non-essential phrase, and a colon to introduce a list of items: 'Ellie the elephant went to the store. She bought three things. The items were a notebook a pen and a snack.' (4 marks)

7. Extended Writing Task: Write a short paragraph (approximately 50-70 words) describing a secret meeting between Max and Zara. You must include: one example of direct speech, one relative clause, and one set of brackets or dashes. (9 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene where Max the monkey is presenting his math budget to Pip, including a speech bubble for one of them that uses correct punctuation.



Extension challenge: Total: 25/25. Bonus: Can you write a sentence that uses a semicolon to join two independent clauses about Finn the dolphin?