

Max's Market Math and Mystery

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills including inference, identifying word meanings, and retrieving information from a text.

Read the story of Max the monkey at the market, then answer the ten questions below to test your understanding.

Max the monkey stood at the edge of the bustling town market, his notebook tucked under his arm. He loved the market, not just for the fruit, but for the patterns in the pricing. Today, he watched a local baker selling loaves of sourdough for £2.50 each. A nearby farmer had an abundance of bright red apples, selling them in bags for £1.20. Max noticed a small sign near the apple stall that read: 'Special offer – two bags for £2.00!' Max quickly calculated that buying two bags would save him 40p. He felt a sense of satisfaction. As he walked further, he spotted an elderly lady struggling to carry her heavy shopping bags. Max, being a kind soul, immediately offered to help her carry them to the bus stop. She smiled warmly and offered him a shiny apple as a thank you. Max declined the apple politely, explaining he was on a mission to solve the day's pricing puzzles, but he helped her nonetheless. The market was a place of constant movement, noise, and wonderful human stories.

Word bank: hustle · abundance · bargain · calculate · generous

1. 1. Why does Max enjoy visiting the market? (A) To buy clothes (B) To eat all the food (C) To observe patterns in pricing* (D) To play games (1 mark)

2. 2. How much does one bag of apples cost? (1 word answer) (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: Max accepted the apple offered by the elderly lady. (1 mark)

4. 4. What is the total saving if you buy two bags of apples instead of one? (1 word answer) (1 mark)

5. 5. Which word best describes Max's character? (A) Lazy (B) Helpful* (C) Greedy (D) Quiet (1 mark)

6. 6. How much would three loaves of sourdough cost? (1 word answer) (1 mark)

7. 7. What does the word 'abundance' mean in this context? (A) A small amount (B) A large quantity* (C) A missing item (D) A colorful display (1 mark)

8. 8. Where was the elderly lady heading? (1 word answer) (1 mark)

9. 9. True or False: Max thinks everything in life is a math puzzle to be solved. (1 mark)

10. 10. What was Max holding under his arm? (1 word answer) (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey at the market, showing the apple stall and his notebook.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are at the market with Max. Write three sentences about what other items you might find for sale and how you would calculate the total cost for a friend buying two different items.