

Max and the Market Mystery

Learning objective: To retrieve and infer information from a narrative text to show understanding of character and setting.

Read the short story below carefully, then answer the questions that follow. Remember to use evidence from the text to support your answers.

Max the monkey stood at the edge of the bustling town market, his eyes darting between the stalls. To anyone else, it was just a noisy place to buy fruit, but to Max, it was a giant math puzzle waiting to be solved. He adjusted his satchel and approached the apple merchant. 'Good morning!' Max chirped. 'I see you have a surplus of Braeburns. If you sell three bags at £2.50 each, but offer a discount of 50p for a bundle of three, how much would a customer save?' The merchant scratched his head, impressed by the monkey's speed. Max wasn't just there for the fruit; he was helping his friend Ellie the elephant organize the annual charity fair. He needed to calculate the budget for the refreshments, ensuring every penny was accounted for. He scribbled notes in his small, worn notebook, his tail flicking with excitement as he found the perfect prices to make the fair a success for everyone in the community.

Word bank: negotiate · abundance · meticulous · calculate · vibrant

1. Why does Max view the market as a 'giant math puzzle' rather than just a place to buy fruit? (2 marks)

2. Using the information in the text, calculate the total cost of three bags of apples if the bundle discount is applied. (2 marks)

3. What evidence is there to suggest that Max is a helpful and organized character? (2 marks)

4. Find and copy one word from the text that suggests the market was very busy. (1 mark)

5. Why is Max visiting the market today? Explain your answer using the text. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey in the market, showing his notebook, his satchel, and the colorful stalls he is visiting.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are helping Max plan the charity fair. Write a list of three items you would need to buy for the fair, and estimate the cost for each item in dollars and cents.