

An Afternoon Adventure with Max

Learning objective: To correctly use inverted commas (speech marks) to punctuate direct speech in a narrative context.

Max the monkey is trying to solve a tricky math puzzle in the jungle. Help him tell his story by writing what he and his friends say. Remember: start speech with inverted commas, use a comma after the reporting clause, and ensure your punctuation goes inside the speech marks.

Word bank: shouted · whispered · exclaimed · muttered · replied · calculated · wondered · inquired

1. Max finds a mysterious map. Write a sentence where Max asks his friend, Nova the owl, a question about the map. Remember to use a question mark inside the speech marks. (2 marks)

2. Nova looks at the map and gives Max an answer. Write a sentence where Nova explains what she sees, using a reporting clause like 'explained Nova'. (2 marks)

3. Max is excited because he solves the calculation. Write a sentence where Max shouts out his discovery. Remember to use an exclamation mark inside the speech marks. (2 marks)

4. The friends decide to share a snack. Write a conversation between Max and Pip the caterpillar discussing what they should eat, using a new line for each speaker. (3 marks)

5. Reflect on your writing: Why is it important to use a new line every time a different character speaks in your story? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph describing what happens next in the jungle. Include at least two examples of dialogue where one character interrupts another.