

Mastering Subordinate Clauses with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To understand and use subordinate clauses to add extra information to sentences.

Max the Monkey loves solving math puzzles, but he needs your help with his grammar! A subordinate clause adds extra information to a sentence but cannot stand alone as a complete sentence. It usually starts with a subordinating conjunction like 'because', 'although', 'if', 'when', or 'while'. Read each question carefully and remember to use your best handwriting.

A main clause makes sense on its own (e.g., 'Max climbed the tree'). A subordinate clause needs the main clause to make sense (e.g., '...because he was hungry'). You can put the subordinate clause at the beginning or the end of a sentence. If you put it at the beginning, don't forget to use a comma!

Word bank: although · because · while · if · when · since · unless

1. Underline the subordinate clause in this sentence: 'Max ate a banana because he was feeling hungry after his long climb.' (1 mark)

2. Add a subordinate clause to the main clause below using a conjunction from the word bank: 'Leo the Lion let out a loud roar...' (2 marks)

3. Rewrite this sentence so the subordinate clause comes first: 'Pip the caterpillar read her favorite book while the sun was shining.' (2 marks)

4. Choose the correct conjunction to complete the sentence: '_____ it rains tomorrow, Nova the Owl will stay in her cosy nest.' (1 mark)

5. Write your own sentence about Ellie the Elephant that includes a subordinate clause starting with 'although'. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey solving a giant math puzzle on a chalkboard under a tree, and write a caption underneath that includes a subordinate clause.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about your favorite BookFlik character. Try to use at least three different subordinating conjunctions to combine your ideas into complex sentences.