

Max's Magnificent Maths Discussion Quiz

Learning objective: To understand the structure and features of a balanced discussion text.

Help Max the monkey decide if school uniforms are a good idea! Read the questions carefully and circle or write your answers to show you have mastered the art of discussion writing.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.False, 4.A, 5.Formal, 6.Introduction, 7.Conclusion, 8.B, 9.True, 10.Balanced.
Discussion texts must present both sides of an argument fairly before reaching a summary.

Word bank: Balanced · Arguments · Introduction · Conclusion · Formal · Conjunctions · Perspective

1. 1. What is the main purpose of a discussion text? A) To tell a funny story B) To give instructions C) To explore different viewpoints on an issue* D) To describe a character (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: A discussion text should be written in a formal tone. (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: You should only write about the side of the argument you agree with. (1 mark)

4. 4. Which of these is a good 'balanced' opening phrase? A) On the other hand* B) I hate this idea C) Everyone knows that D) You must agree (1 mark)

5. 5. What type of language should be used in a discussion text: informal or formal? (1 mark)

6. 6. Which part of the text introduces the topic and the question to be discussed? (1 mark)

7. 7. Where would you find the final summary or your personal opinion in a discussion text? (1 mark)

8. 8. Which conjunctions are useful for showing contrast? A) And, or B) However, although* C) Because, so D) When, while (1 mark)

9. 9. True or False: A discussion text needs to include evidence or reasons to support points. (1 mark)

10. 10. If a text considers both the pros and cons, what is it called? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey holding two signs: one that says 'PROS' and one that says 'CONS', as he tries to weigh up an argument about whether monkeys should wear hats.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) using the phrase 'On the other hand' to discuss whether children should have more break time during the school day.