

Max's Verbal Reasoning Challenge: Word Patterns and Logic

Learning objective: To develop verbal reasoning skills by identifying word associations, analogies, and alphabetical sequences in line with Year 5 English standards.

Help Max the monkey solve these verbal puzzles! Use your knowledge of vocabulary, synonyms, and logical sequences to complete each section. Read each instruction carefully before writing your answer.

Word bank: Synonym · Antonym · Analogy · Sequence · Alphabetical · Relationship · Pattern

1. Word Associations: Max has two words that go together. Find a pair that shares the same relationship (e.g., 'Cold is to Ice as Hot is to Fire'). Explain your pair here. (2 marks)

2. Antonym Hunt: Choose a word from the word bank and write it down. Then, write two different antonyms (opposites) for that word and explain why they work. (2 marks)

3. Alphabetical Ordering: Write down five fruits or vegetables. Now, list them in strict alphabetical order. If two start with the same letter, look at the second letter to decide. (2 marks)

4. Odd One Out: Create your own 'Odd One Out' puzzle using four items. Three must share a common category (e.g., types of transport) and one must be different. Identify the odd one out. (2 marks)

5. Code Breaker: If the word 'CAT' is coded as 'DBU' (the next letter in the alphabet), create your own three-letter word and write its code using the same +1 letter rule. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Try to create a 'missing word' puzzle for a friend where they have to deduce a word from a list of synonyms. Can they guess your secret word?