

Adjective Mastery with Max and Zara

Learning objective: To identify, select, and manipulate adjectives to enhance descriptive writing and create atmosphere.

Max the monkey is busy calculating the perfect description for Zara's latest art project. Read the instructions for each task carefully, ensuring you use a range of ambitious vocabulary to elevate your writing.

Max and Zara stood before the mural. Max observed the patterns with his mathematical eye, while Zara added finishing touches with her paintbrush. The scene depicted a hidden forest filled with mystery.

Word bank: luminous · intricate · vibrant · ethereal · colossal · dilapidated · harmonious · menacing · dazzling · subtle

1. Identify three adjectives from the word bank that could describe Zara's 'art project'. Justify why these words are more effective than simple adjectives like 'bright' or 'big'. (2 marks)

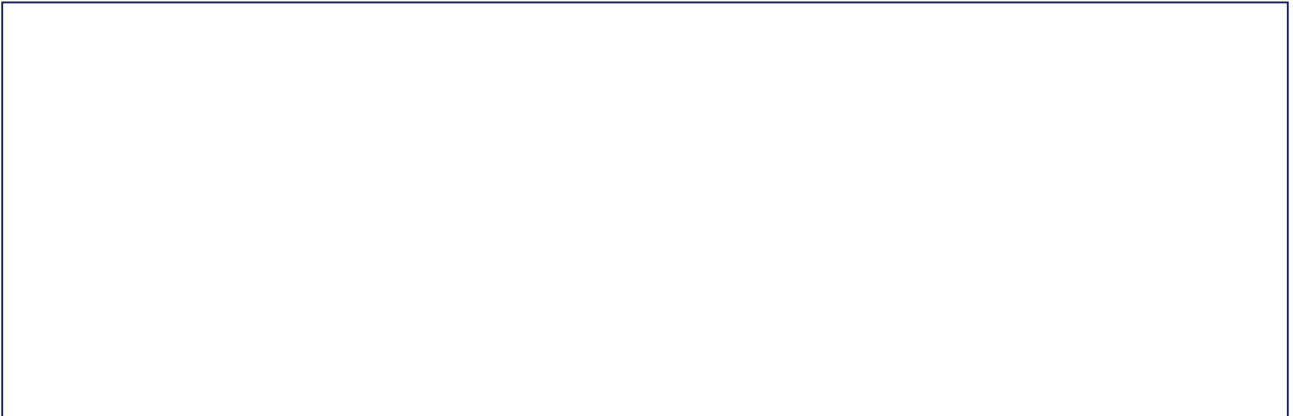
2. Rewrite the following sentence by adding two expanded noun phrases to provide more detail: 'The monkey climbed the tree.' (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the effect of using the adjectives 'vibrant' and 'subtle' when describing a painting. Explain how the reader's perception changes based on your choice. (2 marks)

4. Find the synonym for 'huge' in the word bank. Use it in a complex sentence that includes a relative clause to describe a creature living in the forest. (2 marks)

5. What might happen to the mood of the story if we changed the adjectives describing the forest from 'harmonious' and 'luminous' to 'menacing' and 'dilapidated'? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene of a 'hidden forest' using at least four adjectives from the word bank to label specific parts of your illustration (e.g., pointing to a glowing flower and labelling it 'luminous').



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (50–80 words) describing a rainy day in the city, but you are forbidden from using the words 'wet', 'grey', or 'sad'. Use at least three ambitious adjectives to convey the atmosphere instead.