

Year 5 English Assessment: The Art of Adverbs

Learning objective: To identify, use, and manipulate adverbs to enhance description and indicate degrees of possibility.

Read each question carefully. Use your best handwriting and ensure you use high-level vocabulary where appropriate to impress your teacher.

Max the monkey sat in the high branches of the jungle canopy. He watched the forest floor below. The shadows shifted as the sun moved across the sky. He held a complex mathematical puzzle in his hands, wondering if he would solve it today. He reached for his pencil and began to calculate the angles of the tree limbs.

Word bank: cautiously · tremendously · perhaps · certainly · inquisitively · gracefully · eventually · frequently

1. Identify two adverbs from the word bank that could be used to describe how Max is working on his puzzle. Explain why these adverbs change the tone of the sentence. (2 marks)

2. Rewrite the sentence 'He held a puzzle' to include an adverb of manner and an adverb of frequency. Ensure your new sentence is more descriptive than the original. (2 marks)

3. Explain the difference in meaning between these two sentences: 'Max certainly solved the puzzle' and 'Max perhaps solved the puzzle'. What do these words tell us about the speaker's certainty? (3 marks)

4. Find and circle the adverb in this sentence: 'Nova the owl peered inquisitively at the star chart.' Then, change the adverb to one that suggests Nova is tired and write the new sentence below. (2 marks)

5. Identify the adverb of degree in this sentence: 'The forest was tremendously vast.' If you replaced 'tremendously' with 'slightly', justify how the meaning of the sentence would change. (3 marks)

6. Compare and contrast the use of adverbs of time (e.g., eventually) versus adverbs of possibility (e.g., probably). Give an example of each in the context of an adventure. (3 marks)

7. What might happen to the quality of a story if an author used an adverb before every single verb? Discuss the impact on the reader's experience. (5 marks)

8. Write a short paragraph (3-5 sentences) describing Pip the caterpillar preparing for a journey. You must use at least four different types of adverbs (manner, frequency, degree, and possibility). (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene featuring Max the monkey or Nova the owl in their natural habitat. Label the drawing with two adverbs that describe the action taking place (e.g., 'carefully climbing' or 'patiently waiting').



Extension challenge: Challenge: Write a persuasive argument for why adverbs are the most important part of speech for building atmosphere in a narrative. Justify your opinion with examples. Total: /25