

Apostrophe Mastery: A Challenge with Max and Kit

Learning objective: To demonstrate precise control of apostrophes for both possession and contraction in formal and creative writing contexts.

Read each question carefully. Ensure your apostrophes are placed accurately to indicate possession or omitted letters. Write clearly and check your spellings.

Max the monkey enjoys solving maths puzzles, especially those involving the jungle's hidden treasures. His friend Kit the fox is equally clever, often using computing skills to map out the paths. Today, they are exploring the ancient ruins to find where the explorers secret maps are kept. If they dont find the right path, they will be lost. It is the explorers task to decipher the code before sunset.

Word bank: possession · contraction · omission · singular · plural · belonging

1. Identify two words in the passage that require an apostrophe for contraction and rewrite them correctly. (2 marks)

2. Find the phrase 'the explorers secret maps' in the passage. Explain why an apostrophe is needed here and suggest where it should be placed, assuming there is only one explorer. (3 marks)

3. Rewrite the following sentence using a contraction: 'Max does not know where the treasure is hidden.' (1 mark)

4. Explain the difference between 'its' and 'it's'. Provide an example sentence for each to justify your answer. (4 marks)

5. If there were three explorers, how would you write 'the explorers secret maps' to show the maps belong to all of them? Justify your placement of the apostrophe. (3 marks)

6. Look at these two sentences: 'The children's books were left on the table.' and 'The womens' coats were in the cloakroom.' Identify which sentence contains a grammatical error and explain how to correct it. (3 marks)

7. Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) describing an adventure with Max and Kit. You must include at least two examples of possessive apostrophes (singular or plural) and two examples of contractions. (5 marks for accuracy and creative flair). (5 marks)

8. What might happen to the meaning of a sentence if a writer mistakenly places an apostrophe in a plural noun (e.g., 'the apple's were red')? Explain the potential confusion for the reader. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene where Max is holding a map and Kit is looking at a computer screen. Label your drawing with one sentence using a contraction and one sentence using a possessive apostrophe.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research the 'apostrophe of omission' in poetry. Why might a poet choose to omit a letter and use an apostrophe when writing a verse?