

Max's Magical Christmas Adventure: A Story Planning Frame

Learning objective: To write a short story with a clear beginning, middle, and end, using descriptive language and correct punctuation.

Read the opening sentence below. Use the questions to help you plan and write your own Christmas story. Try to include adjectives to describe the sights and sounds of the festive season.

Max the monkey sat in his cosy treehouse, watching the first snowflakes of the year drift gently down towards the forest floor.

Word bank: suddenly · meanwhile · eventually · festive · sparkling · as quick as a flash · before long · twinkling · amazingly · the next morning

1. The Arrival: What mysterious Christmas object does Max find outside his treehouse? Start your paragraph with: Max climbed down his ladder and saw... (2 marks)

2. The Problem: What happens to make the Christmas preparations go wrong? Start your paragraph with: Just as he reached out to touch it, something unexpected happened... (2 marks)

3. The Journey: Who does Max meet to help him solve his problem? Start your paragraph with: Max quickly swung through the trees to find... (2 marks)

4. The Solution: How do they fix the situation together? Start your paragraph with: Together, they worked hard to... (2 marks)

5. The Conclusion: How does the story end? Start your paragraph with: As the stars began to shine, they realised that... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you include a piece of direct speech in your story? Remember to use inverted commas to show what the characters are saying to each other!