

Max's Conjunction Construction Challenge

Learning objective: To use a wide range of subordinating and coordinating conjunctions to create complex and compound sentences.

Max the monkey has been busy building a 'Conjunction Bridge' to help his friends cross the maths jungle. To complete the bridge, you must select the most effective conjunction from the word bank to join the two independent clauses or to add a subordinate clause. You may use each conjunction more than once, but try to vary your choices to make your writing more sophisticated.

Word bank: although · because · since · yet · while · unless · whenever · so · despite the fact that · or

1. 1. Max wanted to solve the puzzle quickly; _____, he decided to break it down into smaller, manageable steps. (Explain why this conjunction is the most appropriate choice for this context.) (2 marks)

2. 2. The jungle path was blocked by fallen branches _____ the storm had been fierce last night. (Justify your choice of conjunction.) (2 marks)

3. 3. _____ Nova the owl stays awake to watch the stars, she often feels tired during the bright, sunny mornings. (1 mark)

4. 4. Pip the caterpillar refused to eat the leaf _____ it was covered in dew. (What might happen if you changed this conjunction to 'if?') (2 marks)

5. 5. Ellie the elephant could remember where the water source was, _____ she could not find the exact path through the thick ferns. (1 mark)

6. 6. Compare and contrast the function of 'because' and 'although'. How do they change the meaning of a sentence? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene where Max the monkey is building a bridge using wooden planks. Label each plank of the bridge with one of the conjunctions from the word bank to show how they connect different parts of the structure.



Extension challenge: Write a short, three-sentence story about an adventure in the jungle. Your first sentence must use a coordinating conjunction, your second must use a subordinating conjunction, and your third must use a multi-word conjunction (such as 'as soon as' or 'even though').