

Mastering Conjunctions with Max the Mathematician

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

Max the monkey loves to solve puzzles, but he needs your help to connect his ideas! Use the word bank to complete the sentences and improve your sentence structure. Remember to think about whether you are joining two equal ideas or adding extra detail to a main clause.

Max is busy calculating the cost of a trip to the local market. He has £25.50 in his pocket. He wants to buy fruit for his friends, but he must be careful with his budget.

Word bank: although · because · yet · since · so · unless · while · whereas

1. Max bought a bunch of bananas for £1.20 and a bag of apples for £2.30. Join these two independent clauses using an appropriate coordinating conjunction. Explain why you chose that specific conjunction. (2 marks)

2. Max wanted to buy a melon, _____ it was too expensive. Fill in the blank with a suitable conjunction and justify why a subordinating conjunction would not be appropriate in this specific position. (2 marks)

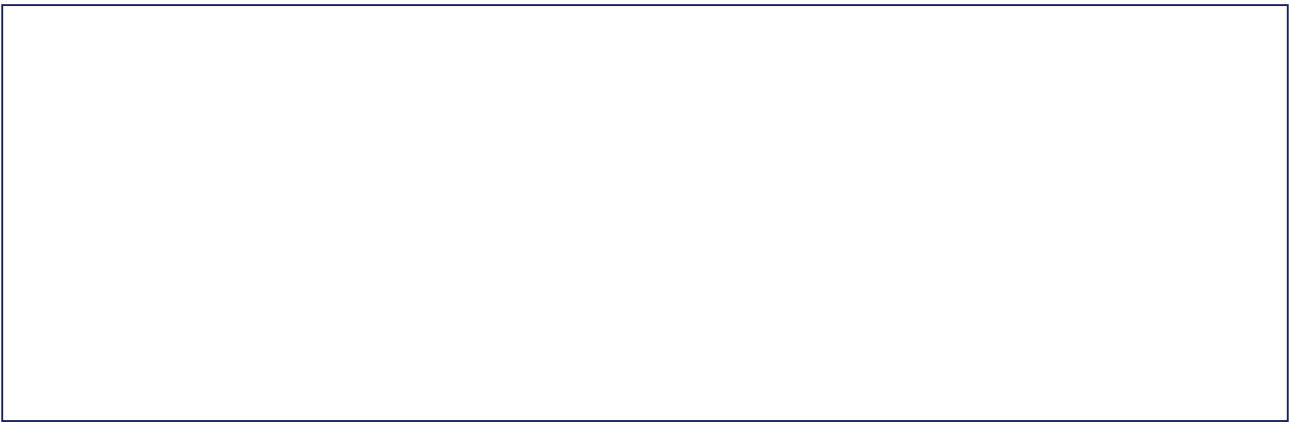
3. Rewrite the following sentence using a subordinating conjunction to create a complex sentence: 'Max checked his list. He didn't want to forget the honey for Bea.' (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the function of 'although' and 'while'. Provide an example sentence for each to demonstrate your understanding. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to the clarity of a paragraph if a writer chose to use only coordinating conjunctions throughout their work? Justify your answer. (2 marks)

6. Construct a complex sentence about Nova the owl stargazing, using the conjunction 'unless'. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey sitting at a desk with a pile of coins and a notepad, looking puzzled as he tries to link his mathematical thoughts together with colourful word-ribbons.



Extension challenge: Write a short, persuasive paragraph (4-5 sentences) explaining to Max why it is important to use a variety of conjunctions in his diary entries. Use at least one conjunction from each category: coordinating, subordinating, and a conjunctive adverb.