

Max's Magnificent Market Diary

Learning objective: To identify the features of diary writing and use inference to understand the writer's perspective.

Read the diary entry below carefully. Answer the questions in full sentences, using evidence from the text where required to support your ideas.

14th July. Today, I set off for the bustling town square with a pocket full of coins and a mission to track the prices of local fruit. As a lover of all things numerical, I, Max, find the market a treasure trove of patterns. I spent exactly £4.50 on a punnet of organic strawberries and £2.25 on a crisp, green apple. The stallholder chuckled as I meticulously tallied the change in my notebook. It is fascinating how the cost per kilogram fluctuates based on the harvest! My favourite moment occurred when I bartered—very politely—for a bunch of sunflowers. I managed to secure them for £3.00 instead of £3.50. I felt a surge of triumph! Back at the treehouse, I spent the afternoon categorising my data into a neat table. While the market was noisy and crowded, there is a rhythmic beauty to the exchange of goods and currency. I am already planning my next excursion to calculate the price of artisanal bread. Writing these thoughts down helps me organise my observations into a logical sequence. Tomorrow, I shall analyse the inflation rates of vegetables!

Word bank: chronological · anecdote · reflection · informal · perspective · first-person

1. List two specific items that Max purchased at the market and state the exact price he paid for each. (2 marks)

2. On what date did Max visit the market and what was his primary goal for the trip? (2 marks)

3. Explain why Max felt a 'surge of triumph' when purchasing the sunflowers. Use evidence from the text to justify your answer. (3 marks)

4. What does the phrase 'the market was a treasure trove of patterns' suggest about how Max views the world? (3 marks)

5. Do you think Max enjoyed his day at the market? Justify your answer using examples from his writing style and tone. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene from Max's perspective at the market, including his notebook filled with numbers and the colourful fruit stalls he visited.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are Max's friend, Pip the caterpillar. Write a short diary entry from Pip's perspective describing his afternoon spent watching Max count coins. Use at least three features of a diary, such as the date, first-person pronouns, and personal feelings.