

Max's Mathematical Expedition: A Diary Entry

Learning objective: To analyse the features of a diary entry and write a recount from a first-person perspective, incorporating emotive language and adverbials of time.

Read the diary entry written by Max the monkey during his recent expedition to the Ancient Ruins. Pay close attention to how he describes his feelings and the order of events. Then, answer the questions below, ensuring you use evidence from the text.

14th October. Today has been the most exhilarating day of my life! I finally reached the crumbling stone archway at the edge of the jungle. As I stood there, the silence was profound. I felt a flutter of nervous excitement in my chest, wondering what mathematical secrets were hidden beneath the mossy floor. Carefully, I brushed away a thick layer of vines to reveal a series of geometric engravings etched into the limestone. It was a perfect sequence of prime numbers! I felt like a true explorer uncovering a lost puzzle. The air grew chilly as the sun began to dip below the canopy, but I couldn't bear to leave. I have decided to return at dawn to map the remaining patterns. It has been a day of discovery that I shall treasure forever.

Word bank: chronological · emotive · adverbial · perspective · reflection · exhilarating · perplexing · consequently

1. Identify two examples of emotive language Max uses to describe his experience. Explain why these words are effective in a diary entry. (2 marks)

2. How does the author establish a sense of time passing within the diary entry? Provide a quote to support your answer. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast Max's internal feelings at the beginning of the day versus his feelings as the sun begins to set. Justify your answer using the text. (3 marks)

4. Explain why Max chooses to return to the ruins at dawn. What does this reveal about his character? (2 marks)

5. What might happen if Max had not discovered the prime numbers on the stone? How would this change the tone of the diary entry? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a detailed illustration of the geometric engravings Max found on the ancient stone archway, incorporating the jungle setting described in the text.



Extension challenge: Write a diary entry from the perspective of Nova the owl, who was watching Max from the treetops during his expedition. Use formal language and include at least three fronted adverbials to describe the scene from her unique viewpoint.