

Mastering Fronted Adverbials with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To identify and use fronted adverbials to improve the cohesion and flow of descriptive writing.

Read the passage about Max's jungle adventure. A fronted adverbial is a word or phrase at the beginning of a sentence that describes how, when, or where an action takes place. Remember to place a comma after the fronted adverbial. Complete the questions below to help Max solve his jungle maths puzzles through storytelling.

Max the monkey sat on a sturdy branch, carefully calculating the number of mangoes he needed for his friends. Beneath the emerald canopy, he spotted a cluster of fruit hanging high above. Quietly, he began his climb, making sure not to disturb the sleeping butterflies. With great precision, he reached out his paw to gather the harvest. In the blink of an eye, he had collected enough for the whole group. During the golden sunset, he returned to the clearing to share his findings.

Word bank: Quietly · Beneath the emerald canopy · In the blink of an eye · Without a moment's hesitation · With great precision · During the golden sunset

1. Identify the fronted adverbial in the first sentence of the second paragraph. Explain what information it provides about the action. (2 marks)

2. Why must we use a comma after a fronted adverbial? Provide an example from the text to support your answer. (2 marks)

3. Rewrite the sentence 'He returned to the clearing' by adding a fronted adverbial that describes where he went. (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the effects of starting a sentence with a fronted adverbial versus ending a sentence with an adverbial. Which creates more tension in a story? Justify your answer. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to the flow of the story if we removed all the fronted adverbials from Max's adventure? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey in the jungle, using a speech bubble to show him calculating something. Include one of the fronted adverbials from the word bank written clearly at the top of your page to set the scene.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) describing a new adventure for Max. You must include at least three different fronted adverbials: one indicating time, one indicating place, and one indicating manner. Use rich, descriptive vocabulary to enhance your imagery.