

Max's Maths-Lab Grammar Challenge

Learning objective: To identify and use formal and informal language, including active and passive voice, within a narrative context.

Read the passage below, which Max has written about his latest experiment. Answer the questions that follow, paying close attention to the grammar and vocabulary choices.

Max the monkey stood in the centre of his laboratory. He carefully poured the glowing blue liquid into a beaker. 'This experiment is going to be brilliant!' he shouted to his friend Pip. Although the liquid bubbled vigorously, Max remained calm. The beaker was placed on the heat-proof mat by Max, who then recorded the temperature in his notebook. The result was noted down by the team as a success.

Word bank: Formal · Informal · Active voice · Passive voice · Conjunction · Subordinate clause

1. Identify one example of a sentence written in the passive voice from the passage. (1 mark)

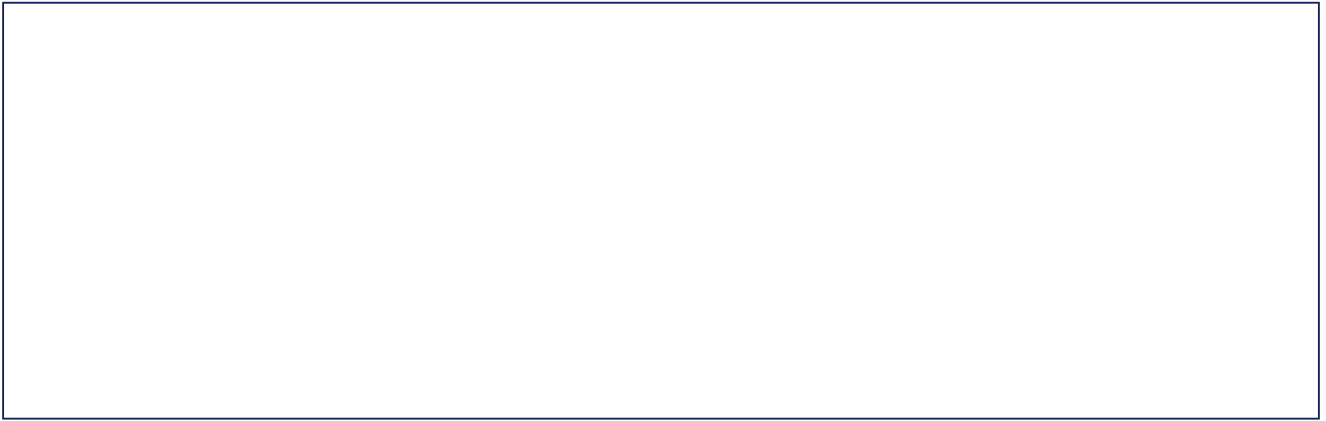
2. Rewrite this sentence in the active voice: 'The result was noted down by the team.' (2 marks)

3. Find a subordinate clause in the second paragraph. Explain how you know it is a subordinate clause. (2 marks)

4. Is the phrase 'This experiment is going to be brilliant!' formal or informal? How could you make it more formal for a scientific report? (2 marks)

5. Max wants to buy new equipment costing £45.50. If he has saved £20.75, how much more money does he need? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a diagram of Max's laboratory, labelling at least three pieces of scientific equipment using formal, scientific language.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph explaining the results of Max's experiment using only formal language and at least two sentences in the passive voice.