

Max's Magnificent Maths-Maker Machine Manual

Learning objective: To write and refine precise, imperative instructions using technical vocabulary and organisational devices.

Max the monkey has invented a 'Maths-Maker Machine' to help him solve complex equations, but he has jumbled the instructions! Your task is to reorder the steps logically, replace the weak verbs with powerful imperative verbs from the word bank, and ensure the tone is instructional. Once reordered, justify why the order is essential for the machine to function correctly.

Word bank: Secure · Calibrate · Calculate · Verify · Assemble · Input · Activate · Disconnect

1. The jumbled steps are: A) Press the green button to start. B) Put the numbers into the slot. C) Build the metal frame. D) Check the answer is correct. Write these in the correct sequence using a powerful imperative verb for each step. (4 marks)

2. Explain why it is vital to 'Calibrate' the machine before you 'Input' the numbers. What might happen if the calibration step was ignored? (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the use of 'Imperative' verbs in this manual versus 'Descriptive' language used in a narrative story. Why do instructions require a specific style? (3 marks)

4. If Max wanted to sell his machine for £45.50, but decided to offer a 10% discount, how much would the machine cost? Show your working out. (2 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Is it better to include a 'Troubleshooting' section at the end of these instructions? Why? (2 marks)

6. Create a new step for the machine that involves a safety warning. Remember to use formal, technical language. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a schematic diagram of Max's Maths-Maker Machine. Include labels that point to specific parts, such as the 'numerical input slot', the 'calibration dial', and the 'result display screen'.



Extension challenge: Imagine the Maths-Maker Machine has developed a glitch and is only outputting answers in poetry. Write a short, set of instructions (4-5 steps) on how a user should 'reset' the machine to return it to numerical mode, using sophisticated vocabulary and a formal tone.