

Mastering Paragraphs: Building Your Story

Learning objective: To use paragraphs to organise information and ideas effectively within a narrative.

Use these prompts to structure a short story about Max the monkey's latest adventure in the Great Ancient Library. Ensure each paragraph focuses on one main idea, such as setting the scene, introducing a problem, or describing a character's reaction.

Max the monkey climbed the towering mahogany shelves of the Great Ancient Library, his eyes wide with wonder as he searched for the legendary Golden Map.

Word bank: Furthermore · Consequently · In the meantime · Initially · Without warning · Subsequently · On the other hand · As a result · Meanwhile · In addition to this

1. Paragraph 1: Setting the Scene. Describe the atmosphere of the library using the senses. Start your paragraph: The air in the library smelled of... (2 marks)

2. Paragraph 2: The Discovery. Describe the moment Max finds something unexpected. Start your paragraph: Suddenly, Max noticed a peculiar glint of light coming from... (2 marks)

3. Paragraph 3: The Challenge. What problem does Max encounter? Start your paragraph: However, reaching the object proved to be more difficult than he had anticipated because... (2 marks)

4. Paragraph 4: The Action. How does Max use his maths skills to solve the problem? Start your paragraph: Thinking quickly, Max began to calculate the exact angle of... (2 marks)

5. Paragraph 5: Resolution. How does the story end? Start your paragraph: As the sun began to set, Max finally realised that... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Review your paragraphs. Have you used a different subordinate clause in each one to create variety? Try to swap two of your connectives with ones from the word bank to see if it improves the flow of your writing.