

Year 6 English Assessment: The Art of Persuasion

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of persuasive techniques, vocabulary, and structural features to influence an audience.

Read the text below carefully and answer all questions. Ensure you use full sentences where required. Write clearly and check your spellings.

Max the monkey has decided that the school playground needs a major upgrade. He has written this short opening to his campaign letter to the Headteacher: 'Are you tired of our dull, grey playground? Imagine a vibrant space filled with climbing ropes and sensory gardens! We must act now to transform our school. Surely, every child deserves an outdoor area that inspires creativity and joy. You should consider our proposal today to make our school the best in the county.'

Word bank: Emotive language · Rhetorical question · Modal verb · Imperative · Direct address · Exaggeration · Alliteration

1. Identify one example of a rhetorical question from Max's text. (1 mark)

2. Explain why Max uses the phrase 'vibrant space' instead of just 'new space'. How does this word choice affect the reader? (2 marks)

3. Find and copy one imperative (bossy) verb used in the text. (1 mark)

4. Identify the modal verb in the final sentence and explain how it adds a sense of urgency to the request. (2 marks)

5. Explain the purpose of 'direct address' in persuasive writing. Why did Max use the word 'you'? (2 marks)

6. Max wants to include an 'exaggeration' (hyperbole) in his next paragraph to show how much he cares. Write a sentence for him that uses exaggeration to describe the current playground. (3 marks)

7. Write a short, persuasive paragraph (4-6 sentences) arguing why the school should invest £500 in a new library reading corner. Use at least three persuasive techniques from the word bank. (5 marks)

8. List three features of a formal letter that Max should include to ensure his proposal is taken seriously by the Headteacher. (3 marks)

9. Why might a writer choose to use a 'rule of three' in a persuasive argument? Provide an example. (3 marks)

10. Identify one piece of emotive language in the text and explain the feeling it is trying to evoke. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a poster advertisement for a 'School Garden Project'. Include one persuasive slogan and one visual symbol to represent growth or nature.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Rewrite your persuasive paragraph from question 7, but this time, target your argument at the parents of the students instead of the Headteacher. How does your vocabulary change?