

Mastering Sentence Craft: The Adventure Narrative

Learning objective: To use a range of sentence structures, including expanded noun phrases, relative clauses, and fronted adverbials, to create a cohesive narrative.

Help our friend Max the monkey write a short story about his latest discovery in the jungle. Use the prompts below to build your sentences. Focus on varying your sentence length and structure to keep your reader engaged. Use the word bank to add descriptive flair.

Word bank: magnificent · cautiously · ancient · vibrant · unexpectedly · towering · mysterious · clambered · shimmering

1. Setting the Scene: Use a fronted adverbial to describe where Max is. Include an expanded noun phrase. (2 marks)

2. The Discovery: Write a complex sentence using a relative clause (starting with 'which', 'who', or 'whose') to explain what Max finds. (3 marks)

3. Action Sequence: Write a short, punchy sentence to show Max's reaction, followed by a longer, more descriptive sentence about his feelings. (3 marks)

4. Explain why you chose specific adjectives to describe the object Max found. How do they change the tone of your story? (3 marks)

5. Justify your use of a fronted adverbial. How does placing it at the start of the sentence alter the pace for the reader? (3 marks)

6. Compare and contrast: How would the atmosphere of your story change if you replaced all your complex sentences with simple ones? (4 marks)

Extension challenge: What might happen if Max took his discovery back to the group? Write a paragraph in the voice of Leo the lion, reflecting on the importance of Max's find, ensuring you use at least one semi-colon to connect two related independent clauses.