

Mastering Sentence Structure with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To vary sentence structure using fronted adverbials, relative clauses, and conjunctions to improve cohesion and flow in writing.

Read the passage below carefully. Max the Monkey has been experimenting with his sentence structures to make his jungle logs more exciting. Use the passage to answer the questions, ensuring you use precise vocabulary and clear explanations.

Deep in the emerald canopy, Max the Monkey swung effortlessly from vine to vine. He was searching for the perfect puzzle to solve, which was a challenge he enjoyed immensely. Suddenly, he spotted a glimmering object hidden beneath a large fern. Because he was an inquisitive creature, Max investigated immediately. With a swift movement, he retrieved a lost, golden compass. The compass, which belonged to a legendary explorer, pulsed with a mysterious rhythm. Although the jungle was dense, Max felt confident that he could navigate his way back to the main clearing.

Word bank: conjunction · relative clause · fronted adverbial · subordinate · cohesion · subordinate clause

1. Identify the fronted adverbial in the first sentence. Why has the author chosen to place it at the beginning of the sentence? (2 marks)

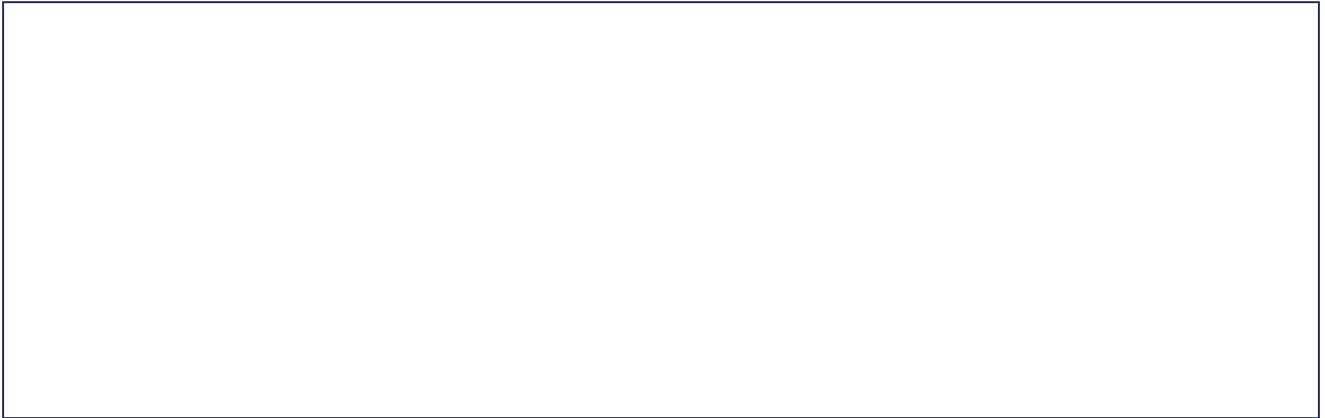
2. Locate the relative clause in the second sentence. Explain how this clause adds extra information to the main noun. (2 marks)

3. In the sentence beginning with 'Because...', identify the subordinate clause. What is the function of the conjunction 'because' in this context? (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the structure of the final sentence with the first sentence. How does the use of different conjunctions change the tone of the writing? (3 marks)

5. Justify why using a variety of sentence structures, rather than only simple sentences, makes a narrative more engaging for the reader. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene where Max the Monkey is holding the golden compass in the jungle. Include a label for a fronted adverbial phrase that describes the setting of your drawing.



Extension challenge: Rewrite the passage from the perspective of the golden compass. Use at least two complex sentences containing relative clauses and one sentence that begins with a fronted adverbial of time. Explain why your chosen structure helps the reader understand the compass's point of view.