

Mastering Sentence Structure with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To understand and apply different sentence structures, including simple, compound, and complex sentences, and to use relative clauses effectively.

Read each task carefully. Max the Monkey has provided some mathematical sentence puzzles for you to solve. Remember to check your punctuation, including commas for relative clauses and conjunctions for joining ideas.

Max the Monkey loves to organise his thoughts into structured sentences. He knows that a simple sentence has one independent clause, a compound sentence joins two independent clauses with a coordinating conjunction, and a complex sentence uses a subordinate clause to add detail.

Word bank: conjunction · relative clause · subordinate · independent · complex · compound · relative pronoun

1. Max has two simple sentences: 'The monkey climbed the tree.' and 'He found a ripe banana.' Join these into one compound sentence using a coordinating conjunction. (1 mark)

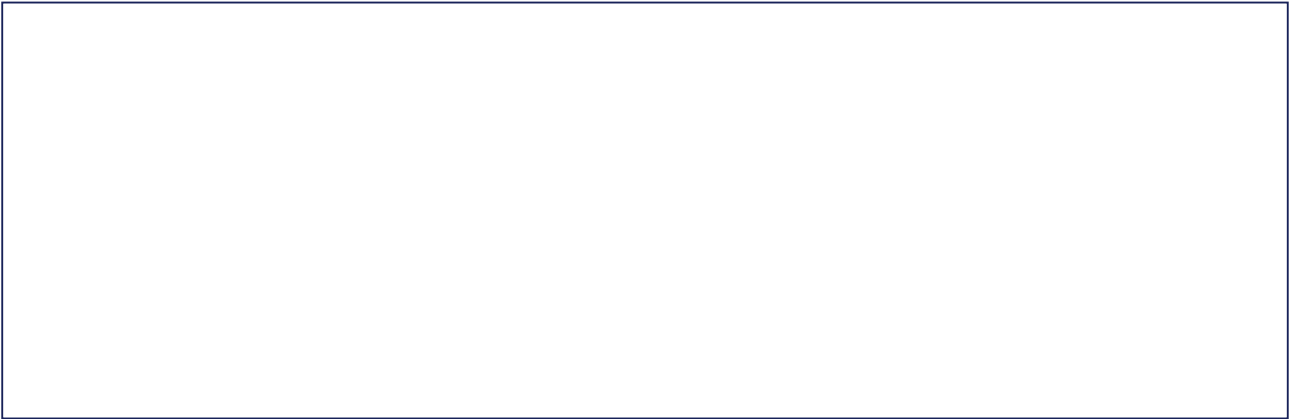
2. Add a relative clause to this sentence: 'The forest was very tall.' Make sure to use a relative pronoun (who, which, whose, or that) and include the correct punctuation. (2 marks)

3. Identify the subordinate clause in this sentence: 'Although it was raining, the brave lion continued his journey.' Explain why this is a complex sentence. (2 marks)

4. Rewrite this sentence to include a fronted adverbial: 'The dolphin swam through the deep blue ocean.' (1 mark)

5. Max bought three bananas for £1.20 each and a coconut for £2.50. Write a sentence stating the total cost of his snacks using a semicolon to join two independent clauses. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the Monkey sitting in a tree holding a banana, and label his surroundings using at least two complex sentences.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing a day out with Pip the caterpillar. Use at least one compound sentence, one complex sentence, and one sentence containing a relative clause.