

Max's Magnificent Vocabulary Challenge

Learning objective: To enhance vocabulary by identifying synonyms, antonyms, prefixes, and word classes in context.

Join Max the monkey as he swings through the jungle of language! Read each question carefully and choose the most precise word to complete the puzzle.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.B, 3.A, 4.True, 5.False, 6.Antonym, 7.Un-, 8.Dis-, 9.Vivid, 10.Adjective. Note: For Q7-10, ensure pupils justify their choices using a dictionary or thesaurus.

Word bank: synonym · antonym · prefix · suffix · vivid · precise · adjective · verb

1. 1. Max found a 'colossal' banana. Which word is a synonym for 'colossal'? A) tiny B) average C) gigantic* D) yellow (1 mark)

2. 2. Choose the best synonym for 'exhausted' to make your writing more vivid: A) tired B) lethargic* C) sleepy D) worn (1 mark)

3. 3. Which word is an antonym for 'courageous'? A) cowardly* B) brave C) bold D) heroic (1 mark)

4. 4. True or False: A 'suffix' is added to the beginning of a word to change its meaning. (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: 'Beautiful' is an example of an adjective. (1 mark)

6. 6. What term describes a word that has the opposite meaning of another word? (1 mark)

7. 7. Add a prefix to 'happy' to create its antonym (e.g., ____happy). (1 mark)

8. 8. Add a prefix to 'agree' to show disagreement (e.g., ____agree). (1 mark)

9. 9. Identify the vivid adjective in this sentence: 'The shimmering river flowed past the ancient trees.' (1 mark)

10. 10. Which word class describes an action or a state of being? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey sitting in a tree, holding a giant magnifying glass and looking at a word floating in the air. Surround him with speech bubbles containing exciting adjectives.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why a writer might choose the word 'sprinted' instead of 'ran'. 2. Compare and contrast the impact of the words 'said' and 'whispered' in a story. 3. Justify your answer: Does adding the prefix 're-' always mean 'to do again'? Provide an example. 4. What might happen to the tone of a story if you replaced all the adjectives with their antonyms? 5. Create a sentence using a word from the word bank that describes the way an owl like Nova flies. 6. If you had £10 to spend on a magical dictionary, what three 'powerful' words would you buy to improve your descriptive writing, and why?