

Max's Magnificent Market Maths

Learning objective: To add whole numbers with more than 4 digits, including using formal written methods (column addition).

Max the monkey is helping the local market traders calculate their weekly takings. Use your knowledge of column addition to solve these puzzles. Remember to align your place value columns carefully—units, tens, hundreds, thousands, and ten thousands!

Max has been busy visiting the stalls. The fruit seller sold £24,567 worth of apples and £12,894 worth of pears. The bakery sold £31,450 worth of sourdough loaves and £9,765 worth of jam tarts. Max loves to see the numbers grow as he adds them together to find the grand totals for the traders. He always reminds his friends: 'If a column adds up to 10 or more, remember to exchange into the next column to the left!'

Word bank: column addition · place value · exchange · total · sum · calculation · digit

1. Calculate the total value of the fruit sold (apples and pears). Show your working using the column addition method. (2 marks)

2. The bakery sold £31,450 of sourdough and £9,765 of jam tarts. What is the sum of these two figures? (2 marks)

3. Explain why it is vital to keep your digits perfectly aligned in their place value columns when adding 5-digit numbers. (2 marks)

4. If the vegetable stall sold £15,678 on Monday and £22,945 on Tuesday, calculate the total for both days. How much more did they earn on Tuesday than on Monday? (3 marks)

5. Justify your answer: If you add two 5-digit numbers, can the total ever be a 4-digit number? Why or why not? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a busy market scene featuring Max the monkey holding a clipboard, standing next to a stall filled with colourful fruit and fresh bread.



Extension challenge: Max has discovered a 'mystery total'. The sum of two 5-digit numbers is 85,000. Create two different pairs of 5-digit numbers that could result in this total. What might happen if you were asked to add a third number to your calculation? Write a short explanation of how your method would change.