

Grade 4 ELA Assessment: Character Description

Learning objective: To demonstrate the ability to use expanded noun phrases, relative clauses, and evocative vocabulary to create a vivid character description.

Read the passage provided carefully. Answer all questions in full sentences where required. Ensure your spelling and punctuation are accurate.

Max the monkey sat atop the ancient oak tree, his tail coiled tightly around a sturdy branch. He wore a waistcoat with deep pockets, which were always filled with brass compasses and half-eaten pieces of fruit. His eyes, which twinkled with mischief, scanned the forest floor for his next math puzzle. Max was not just a climber; he was a problem-solver who could calculate the trajectory of a falling acorn before it even hit the ground.

Word bank: glistening · sturdy · meticulous · shimmering · withered · agile · vibrant · determined · spectacles · charismatic

1. Identify two adjectives used in the text to describe Max's physical environment. (2 marks)

2. Find and copy a relative clause from the passage that describes Max's pockets. (2 marks)

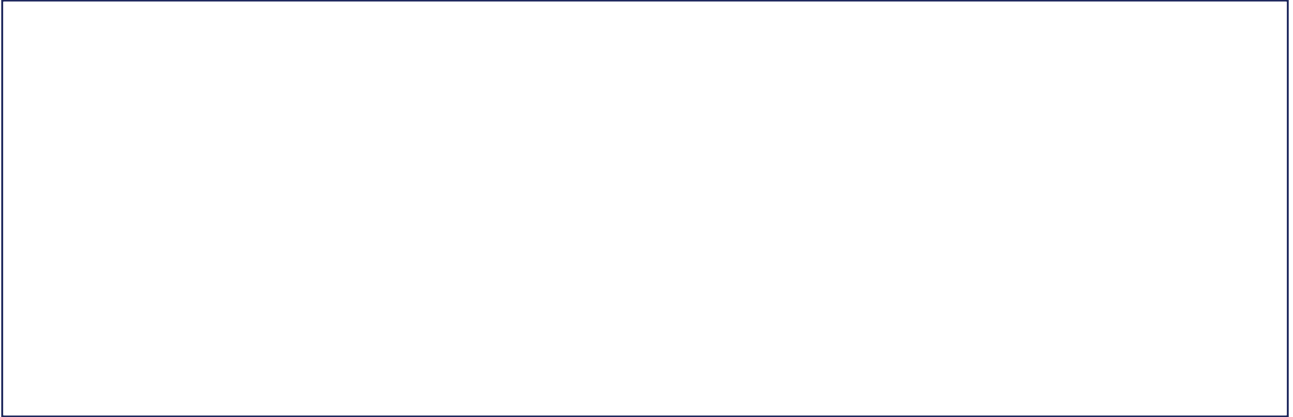
3. Based on the text, what does Max enjoy doing? Use evidence from the passage to support your answer. (3 marks)

4. The author uses the phrase 'eyes, which twinkled with mischief'. What does this tell us about Max's personality? (3 marks)

5. Explain why the author included the detail about Max carrying brass compasses. What does this suggest about his interests? (5 marks)

6. Rewrite the sentence 'He wore a waistcoat' to include an expanded noun phrase and a prepositional phrase. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey based on the description in the passage. Ensure you include his waistcoat and the brass compass mentioned in the text.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (50-70 words) describing a new character, Pip the caterpillar. Use at least two expanded noun phrases and one relative clause. Total: /25