A Day in the Life: Diary Writing with Max

Learning objective: To use the first-person perspective, chronological order, and the past tense to write a diary entry.

Read the questions carefully. Remember that a diary is a personal record of events, written from your own point of view using 'I' and 'my'.

Max the monkey has had a very busy day solving maths puzzles in the jungle. He wants to write about it in his secret diary, but he needs your help to make sure his writing is perfect.

Word bank: chronological · first-person · past tense · feelings · adverbs · time connectives · reflection

1. Max is writing about something that already happened. Which tense should he use: past, present, or future? Explain why. (2 marks)

2. A diary entry is written from the 'first-person' perspective. Which pronouns should Max use to show he is talking about himself? (1 mark)

3. List three time connectives Max could use to keep his diary entry in chronological order (e.g., First, ...). (2 marks)

4. Rewrite this sentence in the past tense: 'I climb the tall tree to count the bananas.' (1 mark)

5. Diaries often include how the writer felt. Write one sentence describing how Max might have felt after solving a difficult puzzle. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max sitting in his favourite tree, holding his secret diary and a pencil, ready to write down his adventures.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are Max the monkey. Write a short diary entry (4-6 sentences) about a time you solved a tricky problem. Remember to include how you felt and what happened at the end of the day.