Character Description Challenge with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To identify and use descriptive language, including adjectives and powerful verbs, to create a character profile.

Read the short description of Max the Monkey below, then answer the 10 questions to test your knowledge of how to build a great character description.

Max is an enthusiastic monkey who thinks everything is a maths puzzle. He has bright, golden fur that glows like the sun. His eyes are large, twinkling orbs that dart around quickly, searching for the next sequence to solve. Max wears a tiny, checkered waistcoat that is slightly too tight, and he carries a battered wooden abacus everywhere he goes. He is always bouncing with energy, chattering excitedly whenever he discovers a new pattern in the trees.

Word bank: Adjective · Verb · Noun · Personality · Appearance · Vivid · Powerful · Features

1. 1. Which adjective is used to describe Max's fur? A) Battered B) Bright* C) Tight D) Tiny (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Max carries a plastic calculator with him. (1 mark)

3. 3. What is the 'power verb' used to describe how Max moves when he has energy? (1 mark)

4. 4. What part of Max's appearance is described as 'battered'? A) His fur B) His eyes C) His waistcoat D) His abacus* (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: Max's waistcoat fits him perfectly. (1 mark)

6. 6. Which word describes Max's personality? A) Enthusiastic* B) Angry C) Shy D) Sleepy (1 mark)

7. 7. What does Max search for with his eyes? (1 mark)

8. 8. Which simile is used to describe the colour of Max's fur? A) Like a tree B) Like the sun* C) Like the moon D) Like a puzzle (1 mark)

9. 9. True or False: Max thinks everything is a maths puzzle. (1 mark)

10. 10. If Max were to buy a new abacus for £5.50 and a new waistcoat for £4.25, how much would he spend in total? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey based on the description. Make sure to include his golden fur, his checkered waistcoat, and his wooden abacus!

Extension challenge: Write three sentences describing a new character. Use at least two interesting adjectives and one powerful verb for each sentence.