

Max's Maths-Lab Dialogue Challenge

Learning objective: To use and punctuate direct speech correctly, including the use of commas, inverted commas, and reporting clauses.

Max the monkey is busy calculating the cost of items for his science project. Read each scenario below and rewrite the sentences, adding the correct speech marks, capital letters, and punctuation. Remember: a comma should separate the speech from the reporting clause unless a question mark or exclamation mark is used inside the speech marks.

Word bank: inverted commas · reporting clause · punctuation · dialogue · capital letter

1. Max looked at the pile of equipment and said How much does this beaker cost? (2 marks)

2. The shopkeeper replied It is exactly £4.50, Max. (2 marks)

3. I think that is a fair price for such quality glass, Max decided. (2 marks)

4. Wait! shouted Pip the caterpillar. Don't forget to add the cost of the rubber tubing! (2 marks)

5. Max asked Pip do you think the total will be more than £10.00? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a speech bubble coming from Max, who is holding a calculator and looking at a beaker. Inside the speech bubble, write a sentence using correct punctuation to show what Max might be saying about the price of his science equipment.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) where Max and Pip discuss a new discovery in the lab. You must include at least one example of speech where the reporting clause comes in the middle of the sentence, such as: 'This result,' said Max, 'is truly fascinating!'