Max’s Monday Morning Mystery

Learning objective: To understand the features of a diary entry and retrieve information from a first-person narrative.

Read the diary entry below carefully. Answer the questions in full sentences, ensuring you look back at the text to find the evidence.

Monday 12th October

Dear Diary, today was the most puzzling day! I woke up early to organize my collection of shiny conkers, but I noticed my favorite red marble was missing. I searched under my bed, behind my curtains, and even inside my math textbook, but it was nowhere to be found. I felt quite sad because I had spent £2.50 of my pocket money on it at the school fair.

Just as I was about to give up, I saw a small trail of glittery dust leading towards the garden. I followed the sparkles past the oak tree and found Kit the fox sitting by the pond. He was holding my marble! Kit told me he thought it was a fallen star and wanted to keep it safe. I couldn’t stay cross with him for long. We spent the rest of the afternoon counting pebbles and solving logic puzzles together. I have decided to keep my marble in a special wooden box from now on so it stays safe. What an eventful start to the week!

Word bank: chronological · entry · reflection · personal · eventful · thoughtful

1. Where did the narrator look for the missing red marble? (List two places) (2 marks)

2. How much did the narrator pay for the marble at the school fair? (1 mark)

3. Why was Kit the fox holding the marble? (2 marks)

4. How did the narrator’s feelings change from the beginning of the day to the end? (2 marks)

5. Do you think the narrator made a good decision to keep the marble in a wooden box? Explain why. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey and Kit the fox sitting by the garden pond, surrounded by pebbles and glittery dust.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are Kit the fox. Write a short diary entry explaining how you felt when you found the 'fallen star' and why you decided to give it back to Max.