Mastering Parenthesis with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To use brackets, dashes, or commas to indicate parenthesis in Grade 5 writing.

Max the Monkey is trying to describe his jungle adventures, but he has forgotten to add extra information! Rewrite the sentences below by inserting the 'extra detail' provided in brackets using either commas, brackets, or a pair of dashes. Remember to punctuate correctly!

Word bank: brackets · commas · dashes · parenthesis · extra information · punctuation

1. Sentence 1: Max climbed the tallest tree in the jungle. (which was covered in moss) Use brackets. (2 marks)

2. Sentence 2: The golden bananas were delicious. (his favorite snack) Use a pair of commas. (2 marks)

3. Sentence 3: The river flowed quickly towards the ocean. (a long journey ahead) Use a pair of dashes. (2 marks)

4. Sentence 4: Pip the caterpillar read a book. (a tiny, green creature) Use commas or brackets. (2 marks)

5. Sentence 5: Nova the owl watched the stars. (who was very wise) Use a pair of dashes. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey swinging from a tree. In your drawing, include a speech bubble where Max says something about his day, and use a pair of brackets inside the speech bubble to add an extra detail about his mood.

Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about your own favorite hobby. You must include at least three examples of parenthesis: one using commas, one using brackets, and one using dashes.