

Year 3 English

Week 5 Greek Mythology

Monday 1st February

This week we are going to be starting to look at Greek mythology.

We will be focusing on the adventures of a Greek hero who is called Odysseus.

He was the King of Ithaca who fought in the battle of Troy.



More information

Odysseus was the hero who came up with the idea of the wooden horse that enabled his army of men to get through the gates of Troy and win the war.

After 10 years of fighting, Odysseus and his men set sail home to return to their kingdom.

As with all stories, there were many twists and turns before they finally arrived home 10 more years later.



LO: To know and understand what a Greek myth is

Today I would like you to read the story of Odysseus and Polyphemus (the cyclops) who was the son of the Greek God Poseidon (the God of the seas).

When you read this text please think about the way that the author has written the text. Is it similar or different to any other texts that you have read before?



Questions to answer:

1. Who are the characters in the story?
2. What is different about the cyclops?
3. How many of Odysseus' men went to explore?
4. How did Odysseus escape the cave of the cyclops?
5. What did Odysseus tell the cyclops his name was?
6. Who is the father of Polyphemus?
7. What made Odysseus want to explore the island?



Tuesday 2nd February

LO: To describe a mythical monster

Remind yourselves- what is the SC that we generated in week 3 for our descriptive writing?

You must use it again today.



Activity in your book

Sort the words into two groups. Describing how a character looks and describing a characters personality.

disgusting vile miserable violent dishonest

greedy putrid furious hideous



Meaning of these words

There are probably some new words there that you do not know the meaning of and so I would like you to use a dictionary (this may be online) to find out what the meaning of each of the words are and then write them in your book.

Being able to use a dictionary and a thesaurus are great skills to have and will drastically improve your writing.



Describing a character SC

Continuous SC:

1. Capital letters
2. Finger spaces
3. Punctuation (.,!?)
4. Conjunctions (if, but, and, so, because, then, when)

Description SC:

1. Adjectives (describing words)
2. Similes (when something is like something else)
3. Metaphors (when something is something else)
4. Synonyms (different words with similar meanings)



Today's task

Today you are going to be describing the Cyclops from the Greek myth.

Use the picture on the next slide to write down as many adjectives as you can think of to describe the cyclops.

You will then use these to create complete sentences to describe the character.



Things to remember

What does the character LOOK like?

What does the character MOVE like?

What does the character SMELL like?

What does the character FEEL like?

What is the characters PERSONALITY?





How to change your adjectives into sentences.

We must use all of our SCin order to help us use the adjectives that we have thought of to describe the character thoroughly and with flow.

Read the description on the next slide. What do you think of it and why?



Example

A long, slimey stalactite of snot cascaded from his nose and rested above his top lip. Unaware of this grotesque feature, the Cyclops made no attempt to wipe it away, but left it there, licking it sporadically throughout the day with his rough and rigid tongue. One large eye of marble centred his old and gnarled face, like the moon in the middle of a stormy nights sky. Slowly it moved from left to right, scanning, scouring, watching... waiting for its next prey to pounce on.



Your turn

Ensure that you use the SC to support your character description.

I am looking forward to reading and imagining the disgusting monsters that you describe to me.



Wednesday 3rd February

LO: To describe a mythical setting



Writing to describe

Watch the video on this link.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zcxnm39>

Write down what you think the SC should be in order to describe.

This will form part of our SC



Success criteria

Continuous SC:

1. Capital letters
2. Finger spaces
3. Punctuation (.,!?)
4. Conjunctions (if, but, and, so, because, then, when)

Description SC:

1. Adjectives (describing words)
2. Similes (when something is like something else)
3. Metaphors (when something is something else)
4. Synonyms (different words with similar meanings)



Today's work

Today you will be writing the setting description for your Greek myth.

Remember the more vivid your description is, the more the reader will be able to imagine the setting.

This story is set inside the giants cave- what might you see in there?



First task

Use a thesaurus on the internet to find even better words that mean the same as the words below. This is called upleveling.

1. dark
2. sad
3. scared
4. brave

<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english-thesaurus>



Imagery

We have used imagery before in our writing (when we did poetry).

We can use similes when we describe how something is like something else.

We can use metaphors when we say something is something else.



My example- do you think it is good? Use the SC to explain why

Towering boulders framed the dingy, dark and dismal cave. As Odysseus and his men entered a pungent smell filled their nostrils, a smell so repulsive, the hair in their nose scrunched together to try to repel it. In the distance, the drip dropping sound of water echoed within the walls of the cave. Odysseus at least hoped that it was water that he could hear splashing from vast darkness the spread above him, encompassing he and his men in this suffocating hole of fear.



Your turn

Now it is your turn to use the SC to create a detailed and interesting description of the Cyclops' cave.

Remember- the Cyclops is a disgusting monster so think about what the place he may live in will look like and try to paint a picture in my mind of this using your words.



Thursday 4th February

LO: To write a Greek myth



Remind yourselves

What is our continuous SC?

What is our SC to write a myth?

It is so important that you use these to support your mythology writing.



Success criteria

Do not forget to use ALL of the SC today including, as always, our continuous Success Criteria which can be found earlier in the powerpoint.



First task

What do you think is the purpose or the reason why we write stories?

Write your opinion in your books.

If you do not know why authors write stories, then you will not be able to write one yourself.



Which parts are we writing today?

Today we are going to be writing the beginning and the first part of our problem for our story.

The beginning must include a setting description, a character description and the build up to the problem.

Remember, this is one of many of Odysseus' adventures and so we need to set the scene.



My example- you will write more

As the boat came upon the shore with a mild thud, Odysseus and his men were awestruck at the amazing sight that stood before them. Giant trees full of fruit and luscious green leaves framed the island, covering the outskirts like a colourful blanket. Overjoyed that their journey so far had landed them in such beauty Odysseus and his men lept from the ship with excitement and enthusiasm, ready to make camp for the night.



In your books

You now need to begin to write your story up to the point where Odysseus and his men are trapped in the cave of the cyclops.

They must arrive at the Island on their ship and then decide to go and explore which is where they run into trouble in the form of Polyphemus.



Friday 5th February

LO: To write a Greek myth



Success criteria

Refresh your memories, what success criteria do we need in order to write a fantastic story?

What person and what tense are we writing in?

Why is this?



Activity 1- Past or present tense?

Was saw have had woke slept

Sleep watch watched see swim

Swam went jump jumped look

Looked hid hide



Activity 2- First person or

I me she we they his my her

Use the link to help and support you with this.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zrqqtfr/article/s/zxdhsg8>



Which one is better and why?

The men were scared and they were all worried and they were scared and they didn't know what to do but odysseus was brave he was really brave and he had an idea he was gonna make the giant sleepy and then he was gonna stab him in the eye with a big stick. All the men were scared but he wasn't he was going to save them all



Second example

Quivering with fear, Odysseus looked around the men that were left alive and realised that he must do something, he must come up with a plan. As a favourite of the Gods, Odysseus was blessed with a problem solving mind and just like the switching on of a lightbulb, an idea came to him. It would take great skill and acting but if he could pull it off then both he and his men would be free to continue on their voyage home.



Your turn

The second one was better because it flowed and used all of our success criteria.

It is your turn to finish off the middle and the ending of your story.

Remember the importance of editing and try to do this as you reread your work.

