



Year 7 English - Ovid's Myths



Essential Knowledge

Sensory language – Use the 5 senses in your descriptions to enhance your writing: sight, smell, taste, touch and sound.

Literary techniques

Similes - comparing one thing to another for effect, using 'like' or 'as...as...' E.g. *'The people stood tall and proud, like Titans.'*

Sophisticated adjectives and verbs – avoid only using basic adjectives and verbs. Instead of 'scary' try 'terrifying'; or instead of 'shone' try 'glistened'.

Short sentences for effect – Using short sentences can build up tension in your writing. E.g. *'All around was darkness. Silence. Coldness.'*



Who was Ovid?

Ovid, in full **Publius Ovidius Naso**, (born March 20, 43 BC,—died AD 17) was a Roman poet. A member of Rome's knightly class, Ovid dutifully started an official career but soon abandoned it for poetry. He was a well-established poet when he undertook perhaps his greatest work, *Metamorphoses*, on (mostly Greek) legends of transformations of human beings into nonhuman forms by gods; and *Fasti* ("Calendar"), an account of the Roman year and its religious festivals. His verse had immense influence because of its imaginative interpretations of classical myth and its supreme technical accomplishment.

How do I 'show not tell'?

Use your nouns, verbs and adjectives to 'show' your reader what you mean. Instead of 'The cave was scary' try: 'The cave was blacker than the blackest night. A sinister chill wound its way through the darkness.'

Term	Definition
synonym	a word that has the same or a very similar meaning to another word.
oracy	the ability to express yourself fluently and clearly in speech
Sophisticated vocabulary	Definition
benevolent (adj.)	kind and well meaning
colossal (adj.)	extremely large
divine (adj.)	of, from, or like a god
illuminate (v.)	to light up, brighten
immense (adj.)	extremely large or great, especially in scale or degree
metamorphosis (n.)	the transformation from one form into another
perilous (adj.)	extremely dangerous
robust (adj.)	strong and sturdy
silhouette (n.)	dark shape visible against a lighter background

Grammar Focus:

When do I need to use a capital letter?

- When writing 'I' to refer to yourself
- When using a person's name (e.g. Chloe)
- When using a specific place's name (e.g. Atherstone, Spain)
- When starting a new sentence
- When using the title of a book/film/TV show
- When using acronyms (like TV above, BBC, WoW)

What are word classes?

- **Nouns** people, places, things and ideas
 - **Concrete** table
 - **common** town
 - **proper** Atherstone
 - **Abstract** love
- **Verbs:** doing words e.g. jump, hit, speak, was
- **Adjectives:** describing words e.g. intimidating, beautiful, dangerous
- **Prepositions:** words that show a location in relation to another thing. E.g. under, on, next to
- **Pronouns:** words that replaces a noun in a sentence e.g. she, they, it, him
- **Adverbs:** Words that describe a verb or adjective, usually ending in -ly

Writing structure



Drop-in — Provide your reader with an overview of the setting and atmosphere. Hint: try using pathetic fallacy by personifying the weather to create an atmosphere suitable to your setting and mood.



Shift — Shift in time, location or perspective. Shifting in time? Try: 'But it wasn't always this way.'



Zoom — zoom in on one particular object or person. Describe in detail. Tip: Choose something that you have plenty to write about.



Zoom 2 — zoom in on another particular object or person. Describe in detail. Tip: Use sensory language to write in a lot of detail.



Return/Link — return to the image you created in your 'drop in' paragraph and describe a change (e.g. the weather, a sudden appearance)