

Year 5 Autumn 1 English Knowledge Organiser: Beowulf



Blurb

Hear and listen well, and I will tell you a tale that has been told for a thousand years and more. It may be an old story, yet it troubles and terrifies us as much now as it ever did, for we still fear the evil that stalks out there in the darkness beyond.

Key information

Plot: In fifth-century Denmark, a murderous monster stalks the night, and only the prince of the Geats has the strength and courage to defeat him. Beowulf's terrifying quest to defeat Grendel, the foul fiend, a hideous sea-hag and a monstrous fire dragon is the oldest surviving epic in British literature.

Themes: legends, war, heroes, fulfilling a destiny, love, loyalty, and right from wrong.

Key characters

Beowulf	The hero-prince of the Geats.
Grendel	The beast who wanders among the Great Thanes of Denmark.
Sea-hag	Grendel's mum.
King Hrothgar	King of the Danes.
The Death-Dragon	The third battle is against this dragon.

Author voice

"I spend months, often years, doing what I call dreamtime, weaving it together inside my head. But when I feel that egg of the story is ready to hatch then I can write it in three months."

Key vocabulary

adorned	Make more beautiful or attractive
ancestors	A person, typically one more remote than a grandparent, from whom one is descended
condemn	Sentence (someone) to particular punishment
enthralled	Capture the fascinated attention of
hideous	Extremely ugly or unpleasant
lamented	Conventional way of describing someone who has died or cease to exist
grapple	Engage in a close fight or struggle
prospered	Flourish physically; grow strong and healthy
teeming	Be full of or swarming with

Key quotes

"Kind, to gaze in triumph at his gory head. So, remembering all this, let us all rejoice and feast together tonight. And in the morning I shall give you all your promised treasure."

Discussion points

What motivated Beowulf?
Should we call Beowulf a king or a hero?
Why is this poem important to our heritage?

Year 5 Autumn 1 Additional Knowledge Organiser

M	100 Th	10 Th	Th	H	T	O's
3	4	2	5	2	1	6
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4	0	0	0	0	0
		2	0	0	0	0
			5	0	0	0
				2	0	0
					1	0
						6

Can you identify the value of the 5 in 8529?

Place Value

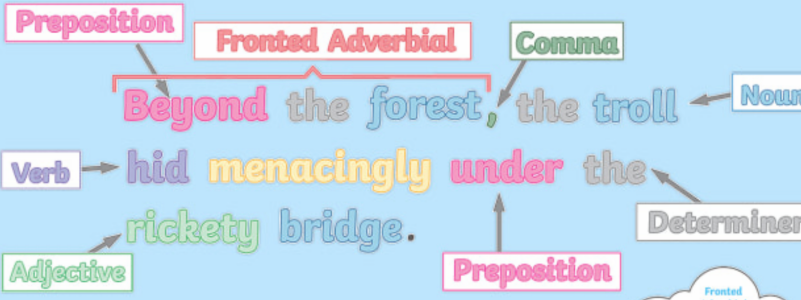
M	100 Th	10 Th	Th	H	T	O's	.	t
Millions	Hundred thousands	Ten thousands	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones	Decimal point	Tenths
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Handwriting

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

a b c d e f g h i j k l m
n o p q r s t u v w x y z

The quick brown fox jumps
over the lazy dog.



Menacingly, the savage
beast lurked in the shadows
behind the trees but no
one noticed.

Can you identify
the key terminology
in this sentence?

Features of sentences

Key terms	Definition
preposition	a word that tells you where or when something is in relation to something else, e.g after, before, on, under, inside and outside
fronted adverbial	words or phrases at the beginning of the sentence used to describe the action that follows
comma	a punctuation mark (,) indicating a pause between parts of a sentence or separating items in a list
noun	common noun- name of a generic place, or thing in a class or group proper noun- the name of a particular person, place, or thing that is spelled with a beginning capital letter
determiner	a word that is used before a noun to show which particular example of the noun you are referring to: In the phrase "my history book" the word "my" is a determiner .
adjective	a word that describes a noun, for example, vivid, delightful, familiar
verb	a word that expresses an action (to run), occurrence (to happen), or state of being (to appear)

Some spelling rules

When the letter before a 'y' is a consonant, change the 'y' to an 'i' before adding an 'es'



one baby



two babies

city → cities
pony → ponies
filly → fillies

berry → berries
reply → replies
belly → bellies

When words end in 'ay', 'ey', 'iy', 'oy' and 'uy' add an 's' to make the plural



one donkey



two donkeys

boy → boys
pulley → pulleys
relay → relays

play → plays
grey → greys
alley → alleys

When words end in 'f' or 'fe' change the 'f' or 'fe' to a 'v' before adding 'es'



one knife



two knives

leaf → leaves
wife → wives
thief → thieves

wolf → wolves
elf → elves
life → lives