

Myths and Legends

The Story of Romulus and Remus - Lesson 7: Thursday 14th January

Writing a Build-Up



Aim

- I can write an effective build-up.
- I can use and punctuate direct speech correctly.

Success Criteria

- I can develop dialogue between the characters.
- I can use short, snappy sentences to help raise tension.
- I can use direct speech to convey what characters are thinking and feeling.
- I can follow the rules for using direct speech.

Creating an Atmosphere



Dialogue between the brothers will form an important part of our build-up and help create atmosphere. However, we not only need to share the thoughts and feelings of the brothers with the reader, but also describe the action taking place. The reader needs to become aware of the mounting tension between the brothers and to understand that they are getting more and more irritated with each other.

One way to share a character's thoughts is to give the reader a clue how they are feeling by using an action the character is carrying out.

Here are some examples:

As Remus was marching defiantly over to Aventine Hill, he thought to himself how all their lives, his brother had always had his own way.

While lying in the cool grass waiting for a sign from the gods, Romulus glanced over at his brother and felt annoyed to see what an arrogant look he had on his face.

Task 1

Creating an Atmosphere

Can you make some sentences combining action and thoughts/feelings using the ideas below? You will need to add in the names of the characters.

Take a word or phrase from each column below to write three sentences.
For example; While idly kicking stones on the pathway Romulus felt like he was going to erupt with anger.

Add the name of the character

Subordinating Conjunctions	Actions	Thoughts/Feelings
While	idly kicking stones on the pathway,	...thought how irritating his brother could be at times.
When	scouring the skies for a sign from the gods,	...felt like screaming with frustration.
Before	clenching his fists and screwing up his face,	...wanted to shake his brother to make him see sense.
After	getting up grumpily from the grassy ground,	...felt like growling.
As	folding his arms angrily, huffing loudly, clenching his fists, going red in the face,	...felt like he was going to erupt with anger.

Creating an Atmosphere



Another way to get across the feeling of mounting tension between the brothers is to include some short, snappy sentences in our build-up.

Which of these short, snappy sentences do you think you would like to include in your build-up to help raise tension? At what point in the action would you include them?



Remus growled.

Nothing stirred.

They heard a sound.

Romulus sighed.

They stared at each other.

There was silence.

There was a bang.

It couldn't be!

They turned away from each other.



Task 2

Writing a Build-Up



We are going to bring together our work from yesterday on direct speech and our work today to help create tension as you write your own version of the build-up. Remember to include dialogue and to follow the rules for writing direct speech.

Write from the point when the brothers go off to find somewhere to build their new city up until the point when the brothers agree to wait for a sign from the gods to solve the problem.

Here's a checklist to help you:

What to include	Have included Yes/No	Ways to improve my work
Include Speech (remember the rules!)		
Describe the actions of the characters (look back on task 1 to help you)		
Use at least 2 short, snappy sentences (look back on the previous slide for some examples)		

Task 3

Check It and Reflect!



Underline all the words spoken by a character in a coloured pencil. Check that you have put inverted commas around all the spoken words in your build-up.

Underline in a different colour one sentence in your writing that you consider to be particularly effective in getting across the atmosphere of tension and irritation felt by the brothers through their feelings and actions.

Underline your 2 short, snappy sentences in another colour.

What to include	Have included Yes/No	Ways to improve my work
Include Speech (remember the rules!)		
Describe the actions of the characters (look back on task 1 to help you)		
Use at least 2 short, snappy sentences (look back on the previous slide for some examples)		

You can print the checklist off the home learning page or copy it out.

Once you have underlined the examples in your work, fill in the second column on the chart. Now show your work to a parent or carer and talk together about ways you could improve your work. Write these ideas in the 3rd column.



GREAT JOB!



Well done Year 4! Tomorrow we are going to be looking at the dilemma and resolution part of our story. We will be using powerful verbs and fronted adverbials to write about the character's thoughts and feelings. Have a lovely day!