

Y7 Autumn Term 2 – English home learning

Monday 9th – Friday 20th November

Topic: Feminism and Fairy-tales



Lesson 1. LO: to use creative writing skills to reinterpret a significant story from literary history

Task 1

Complete the quiz below. The answers are on p for you to check afterwards.

1. Give one example of one of Reynard the Fox's crimes
2. Why does Scheherazade tell stories in 'One Thousand and One Nights'?
3. What is the password for the thieves' secret hiding place in 'Ali Baba...'?
4. What happens to Little Red Riding Hood at the end of Perrault's version?
5. What is the Queen's punishment at the end of the Grimms' Snow White?

Task 2

Put these images into two groups. Think about your reasoning.



Task 3

Watch this song from Disney's [Snow White](#).

What do you think of this song?

What is the message?

Task 4

Throughout your studies at secondary school, you will look again at attitudes towards female characters in stories. Often, especially in older texts, female characters are criticised, ignored or shown to be weak. Feminist readers try to challenge this and point out the unfairness to women in these stories.

How would a feminist reader challenge these ideas...?

- *Eve is to blame for the Fall from the Garden of Eden*
- *Helen is to blame for the Trojan Wars because of her flirtatious nature*
- *Little Red Riding Hood is a warning to girls not to be curious/adventurous*

Lesson 2

Task

- **You are going to re-write one of the stories we've read from the perspective of one of the female characters**
- Which female character will you choose? Helen? Snow White? Eve? Diana? Snow White's stepmother?
- What would they think about the (male) characters? What new insights can you give into their personality and experiences? Can you give the story a different twist or reveal new messages?
- When will you be telling the story? Present tense (as it's happening)? Just after it's happened? Several months or even years later?
- What does this character think of the main characters? How can you give her a believable voice? How will she use language to describe them?

Write your story in full sentences.

Quiz answers

1. Give an example of one of Reynard the Fox's crimes
 - a. kicked dust in the eyes of the wolf's children, stole a sausage from the dog, attacked the hare, killed the chickens' children
2. Why does Scheherazade tell stories in 'One Thousand and One Nights'?
 - a. To prevent her husband, the king, from having her executed
3. What is the password for the thieves' secret hiding place in 'Ali Baba...'?
 - a. 'Open, Sesame!'
4. What happens to Little Red Riding Hood at the end of Perrault's version?
 - a. The wolf eats her
5. What is the Queen's punishment at the end of the Grimms' Snow White?
 - a. She has to dance herself to death in a pair of red-hot iron shoes