

## YEAR 9

### Independent learning to be completed during school closure

#### English

During a two week period you would ordinarily have: 6 English lessons

Your first three lessons are based on an extract from *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien. If you scroll to the bottom of these tasks you will find the source material: a tense section of the novel in which Bilbo Baggins (a hobbit) enters a dragon's lair...

You will also need to look at the Yr9 English Help Sheet which is a separate document on the school website.

#### Lesson 1 – Questions 1 and 2

- Read the extract. Underline (or make a note of) any words you don't understand and look them up.
- Answer Questions 1 and 2 from the question sheet (which you will find below the extract from *The Hobbit*)

#### Lesson 2 – Question 3

- Answer Question 3 from the question sheet. This question is about **structure**. This means how the whole text is put together. Remember to use the Help Sheet for guidance.

#### Lesson 3 – Question 4

- Answer Question 4 from the question sheet. This question is asking you to **evaluate**. This means to give your opinion about how well the author has succeeded in doing what they set out to do. Remember to use the Help Sheet for guidance.

#### Lesson 4 – Creative Writing: Plan

**Below the questions you have been answering you will find a creative writing task with a picture. Take a look at the task and the image.**

This lesson you'll be planning your piece of creative writing. While planning don't forget to consider:

- Structure: what happens in the beginning, middle, end?
- Language: How are you going to make your reader understand the atmosphere and feelings you are trying to present?
- Audience: How are you going to hook your reader in and keep them interested in what happens?

#### Lesson 5 – Creative Writing

- Use this lesson to write up your story.

#### Lesson 6 –Year in Review

This is your final English lesson of the your (very strange) 2019/2020 academic year, and your last KS3 English lesson! I'd like you all to take the opportunity to reflect on how far you've come during this year.

Please write yourselves a letter reflecting on:

- What you've learned in English in KS3.
- What you think your strengths are.
- What you've enjoyed most.
- What you'd like to achieve in KS4.

If you require further information please email:

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***In this extract, adapted from 'The Hobbit,' a hobbit named Bilbo Baggins enters the lair of a dragon named Smaug and steals a golden cup.***

He was alone. Soon he thought it was beginning to feel warm. Is that a kind of a glow I seem to see coming right ahead down there? he thought. It was. As he went forward it grew and grew, till there was no doubt about it. It was a red light, steadily getting redder and redder. Also it was now undoubtedly hot in the tunnel. Wisps of vapour floated up and past him and he began to sweat. A sound, too, began to throb in his ears, a sort of bubbling like the noise of a large pot galloping on the fire, mixed with a rumble as of a gigantic tom-cat purring. This grew to the unmistakable gurgling noise of some vast animal snoring in its sleep down there in the red glow in front of him.

It was at this point that Bilbo stopped. Going on from there was the bravest thing he ever did. The tremendous things that happened afterward were as nothing compared to it. He fought the real battle in the tunnel alone, before he ever saw the vast danger that lay in wait. At any rate after a short pause, go on he did; and you can imagine him coming to the end of the tunnel, an opening of much the same size and shape as a doorway. Through it peeps the hobbit's little head. Before him is the deepest cellar or dungeon-hall of the ancient dwarves right at the Mountain's root. It is almost dark so that its enormous size can only be guessed at, but rising from the near side of the rocky floor there is a great glow. The glow of Smaug!

There he lay, a vast red-golden dragon, fast asleep; a thrumming sound came from his jaws and nostrils, and wisps of smoke, but his fires were low while asleep. Beneath him, under all his limbs and his huge coiled tail, and around him on all sides stretching away across the floors, lay countless piles of precious things, gold, silver, gems and jewels - stained in the red light. Smaug lay, with his wings folded like an enormous bat, turned partly on one side, so that the hobbit could see his long pale belly crusted with gems and pieces of gold from his sleeping on this expensive bed. To say that Bilbo's breath was taken away is no description at all. His heart was filled and pierced with enchantment and with the desire of dwarves; and he gazed motionless, almost forgetting the frightful guardian, at the gold beyond price and count.

He stared for what seemed like an age, before drawn almost against his will, he crept from the shadow of the doorway, across the floor to the nearest edge of the mounds of treasure. Above him the sleeping dragon lay, a terrible menace even in his sleep. Bilbo grasped a great two-handled cup, as heavy as he could carry, and cast one fearful eye upwards. Smaug stirred a wing, opened a claw, the rumble of his snoring changed its note.

Dragons may not have much real use for all their wealth, but they remember every piece of it - and Smaug was no exception. He had passed from an uneasy dream to a doze, and from a doze to wide waking. There was a breath of strange air in his cave. Could there be a draught from that little hole? Smaug thought he could hear the dim echoes of a knocking sound from far above his lair that came down to his lair. He stirred and stretched his neck to sniff at the hole. Then he noticed that the great two-handled cup had been stolen!

Thieves! Fire! Murder! Such a thing had not happened since first he came to the Mountain! His rage passes description - fire roared from his nostrils, the hall smoked, he shook the mountain roots. Then, coiling his length together, roaring like thunder underground, he sped from his deep lair through its great door, out into the huge passages of the mountain palace and up towards the Front Gate to chase the thief who had stolen his treasure!

## Language Paper One: Questions

### Question 1:

Read the **first paragraph** of the source again. List 4 things from this part of the source **that Bilbo Baggins sees and hears in the tunnel.**

### Question 2:

Look in detail at the third paragraph, where Smaug and his lair are described.

How does the writer use **language** here to describe **the dragon and his lair**?

You could include the writer's choice of:

- Words and phrases.
- Language forms and techniques.
- Sentence forms.

### Question 3:

You now need to think about the whole Source.

How has the writer **structured** the text to interest you as a reader?

You could write about:

- How the writer focuses your attention at the **beginning**.
- How and why the writer **changes** the **focus** as the Source **develops**.
- Any other structural features that interest you.

### Question 4:

For this question you must also look at the whole text.

A reviewer wrote: 'In this extract the author has done a good job Bilbo Baggins seem brave. I can easily see why he is in such danger'.

To what extent do you agree?

- Consider your own impressions of Bilbo Baggins actions.
- Evaluate how the writer creates a tense and frightening tone.
- Support your response with references to the text.

## Section B: Writing

You have been invited to produce a piece of **creative writing** about **walking into an unknown cave as inspired by this picture.**

