

Year 4 English- Week One

Spellings for the week:

accident	century	experiment	interest	particular	remember
accidentally	certain	extreme	island	peculiar	sentence

Practise these by writing each one ten times in your best handwriting and by putting them into sentences.

*accident century experiment interest particular
remember accidentally*

certain extreme island peculiar sentence

Spelling rules:

Look up the prefixes: non pre re sub bio

What do they mean? Can you find 6 words that begin with each prefix and gives their meanings?

Vocabulary

Infer 

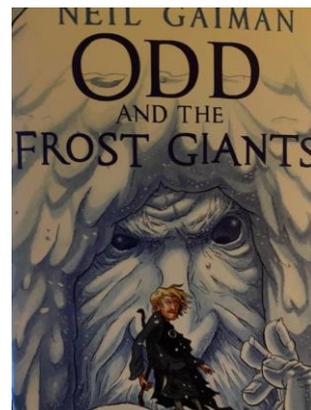
Predict

Explain 

Retrieve

Summarise

VIPERS:



This week our Vipers will be finishing off Odd and the Frost Giants. So far, you have written your own Chapter 3- I wonder if you were right?

Monday:

Chapter Three: The Night Conversation.

Odd has fed his new friends and lies down to go to sleep. The three visitors stay in the house and show no intentions of leaving. After a while, Odd wakes up and can hear voices.

‘It wasn’t my fault.

And a higher voice, bitterly amused, said, ‘Oh, right. I *told* you not to go pushing that tree down. You just didn’t listen.’

‘I was hungry. I could smell the honey. You don’t know what it was like, smelling that honey. It was better than mead. Better than roasted goose.’ And then, the gloomy voice, so bass it made Odd’s stomach vibrate, changed its tone. ‘And *you*, of all people, don’t need to go blaming anyone else. It’s because of you we’re in this mess.’

‘I thought we had a deal. I thought we weren’t going to keep harping on about a trivial little mistake . . .’

‘You call this trivial?’

And then a third voice, high and raw, screeched, ‘Silence.’

1. What does the phrase ‘bitterly amused’ mean?
2. What does ‘trivial’ mean?
3. What do you think the three are arguing about?
4. Who do you think is saying each part? What do you know about the characters of the fox, the bear and the eagle?

Odd wakes up properly and sits up. The animals stop talking but Odd tells them he has heard them. The animals try to deny this but the bear says, “We weren’t arguing, because we can’t talk. Oops!”

Finally the three reveal themselves to be Gods in animal bodies.

Aye. Gods, said the bear. 'I was just getting to that. I am great Thor, Lord of the Thunders. The eagle is Lord Odin, All-Father, Greatest of the Gods. And this runt-eared meddling fox is –'

'Loki,' said the fox smoothly. 'Blood brother to the Gods. Smartest, sharpest, most brilliant of all the inhabitants of Asgard, or so they say –'

'Brilliant?' snorted the bear.

'You would have fallen for it. Anyone would,' said the fox.

'Fallen for *what?*' said Odd.

A flash of green eyes, a sigh, and the fox began. 'I'll tell you. And you'll see. It could have happened to anyone. So, Asgard. Home of the mighty. In the middle of a plain, surrounded by an impregnable wall, built for us by a Frost Giant. And it was due to me, I should add, that that wall did not cost us the Giant's fee, which was unreasonably high.'

'Freya,' said the bear. 'The Giant wanted Freya. Most lovely of the Goddesses – with, obviously, the exception of Sif, my own little love. And it wanted the sun and the moon.'

'If you interrupt me one more time,' said the fox, '*one more time*, I will not only stop talking, but I shall go off on my own and leave the two of you to fend for yourselves.'

The bear said, 'Yes, but –'

'*Not one word.*'

The bear was silent.

1. What have you learned about their characters now?
2. Draw one of them and label their features.
3. Extra research: Find out about Asgard and the Viking Gods.
4. Write a fact file about each of these three Gods. Finish this during the week.

Monday's Grammar focus:

Adverbs

Copy and complete the following questions in to your distance learning books.

Adverbs tell us how, when, where, how often, and how much.

how quietly easily carefully well slowly badly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Talk quietly.▪ Sarah drove slowly.▪ She examined the box carefully.
when now today later yesterday tomorrow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Leave now.▪ Post the parcel today.▪ Tony left yesterday.
where here there inside nearby overseas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bring it here.▪ I used to live there.▪ The issues are happening overseas.
how often always often rarely sometimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ You always complain.▪ Check your work often.▪ Toby sometimes lies.
how much very extremely entirely too enormously	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The rip is extremely noticeable.▪ Don't work too hard.▪ It is entirely inappropriate!

1) Underline the adverb in the following sentences.

Sara plays the violin beautifully.

Quickly, the girl ran from the monster.

The snake hissed loudly.

Yesterday, we learnt about electricity.

Strangely, the lion quacked.

2) Put the correct adverb in to the space to complete the sentences.

Awkwardly Brightly Heavily Luckily

_____, Belle remembered her umbrella.

The sun shone _____.

The boy fell _____.

The rain fell _____ against the window.

3) Which of these adverbs is an adverb of time?

A) Yesterday

- B) Slowly
- C) Loudly
- D) Upstairs

4) **Which of these adverbs tells you how something happens?**

- A) Often
- B) Carefully
- C) Recently
- D) Everywhere

5) **Which of these adverbs tells you where something happens?**

- A) Regularly
- B) Warmly
- C) Happily
- D) Outside

6) **Which of these sentences does not contain an adverb?**

- A) We are travelling tomorrow
- B) We walked quickly
- C) I bought a pair of shoes
- D) He dressed smartly for the interview.

7) **In which sentence is the word 'fast' used as an adverb?**

- A) She liked to drive a fast car.
- B) She likes to drive fast
- C) She was a fast driver.

8) **Write 5 sentences using adverbs.**

Tuesday: VIPERS:

Read the rest of the chapter. Retell the story of Loki and the Frost Giant in your own words.

The fox said, 'In the great hall of Odin sat all the Gods, drinking mead, eating and telling stories. They drank and bragged and fought and boasted and drank, all through the night and well into the small hours. The women had gone to bed hours since, and now the fires in the hall burned low and most of the Gods slept where they sat, heads resting on the wooden tables.'

Even great Odin slept in his high chair, his single eye closed in sleep. And yet there was one among the Gods who had drunk and eaten more than any of the others and still was not sleepy. This was I, Loki, called Sky Walker, and I was neither sleepy nor yet drunk, not even a little . . .

The bear made a noise, a small grumpy harrumph of disbelief. The fox looked at him sharply.

‘I said *one word* . . .’

‘That wasn’t a word,’ said the bear. ‘I just made a noise. So. You weren’t drunk.’

‘Right. I wasn’t. And not-drunkenly I wandered out from the hall, and I walked, with my shoes that step on air, up to the top of the wall around Asgard, and I looked out over the wall. In the moonlight, standing beneath the wall, staring up at me, I saw the most beautiful woman anyone has ever seen. Her flesh was creamy, her hair was golden, her lips, her shoulders . . . perfection. And, in a voice like the striking of a harp string, she called out to me. “Hail, brave warrior,” she said.

“Hail yourself,” says I. “Hail, most beautiful of creatures,” at which she laughed prettily and her eyes sparkled and I knew she liked me. “And what would a young lady of such loveliness be doing a-wandering alone, and at night, with wolves and trolls and worse on the loose? Let me offer you hospitality – the hospitality of Loki, mightiest and wisest of all the lords of Asgard. I declare that I shall take you into my own house and care for you in every way that I can!”

“I cannot accept your offer, O brave and extremely good-looking one,” she said to me, eyes shining like twin sapphires in the moonlight. “For although you are obviously tall and powerful and extremely attractive, I have promised my father – a king who lives far from here – that I will not give my heart or my lips to any but he who possesses one thing.”

“And that one thing is?” says I, determined to bring her anything she named.

“Mjollnir,” says the maiden. “The hammer of Thor.”

‘Hah! Pausing only to tell her not to go anywhere, my feet flew, and like the wind I rushed to the great hall. They were all asleep, or so drunk it made no difference. There was Thor, sleeping in a drunken stupor, his face on the gravy-covered wooden trencher, and hanging from his side, his hammer.

Only the nimble fingers of Loki, wiliest and cleverest, could have teased it from the belt without waking Thor –'

At this, the bear made a deep noise in the back of its throat. After glaring at him for a moment, the fox said, 'Heavy it was, that hammer. Heavier than people dream. It weighed as much as a small mountain. Too heavy to carry, if you are not Thor. And yet, not too much for my genius. I took off my shoes, which as I said can walk on the air, and I tied them, one to the handle and one to the head. Then I snapped my fingers and the hammer followed me.'

'This time I hurried to the gates of Asgard. I unbarred them and I walked through – followed, I do not need to tell you, by the hammer.'

'The maiden was there. She was sitting on a boulder and she was weeping.'

'"Why the tears, O loveliness itself," I asked.'

'At that, she looked up at me with a tear-stained face. "I weep because once I saw you, great and noble lord, I knew I could never love another. And yet I am doomed to give my heart and my caress only to he who lets me touch the hammer of Thor."

'I reached out a hand and touched her cold, wet cheek. "Dry your tears," I told her. "And behold . . . the hammer of Thor!"'

'She stopped crying then, and reached out her delicate hands and held the hammer tightly. I had reckoned I could have my fun with the lady and still get the hammer back into the hall before Thor woke up. But we would need to get a move on.'

'"Now," I said. "About that kiss."

'For a moment I thought she had begun to cry once again, and then I knew that she was laughing. But the noise she made was not a sweet, tinkling, maidenly laugh. It was a deep crashing noise, like an ice-sheet grinding against a mountainside.'

'The maiden pulled my shoes from the hammer and dropped them to the ground. She held the hammer as if it were a feather. A wave of cold engulfed me and I found myself looking up at her, and to make matters worse she wasn't even a *she* any longer.'

'She was a man. Well, not a *man*. Male, yes. Yet big as a high hill, icicles hanging from his beard. And she . . . he, rather, said, "After so long, all it took was one drunken, lust-ridden oaf, and Asgard is ours."

Then the Frost Giant peered down at me, and he gestured with the hammer of Thor. "And you," he said, in a deep and extremely satisfied voice, "you need to be something else."

'I felt my back arching up. I felt a tail pushing its way out from the base of my spine. My fingers shrank into paws and claws. It wasn't the first time I had turned into animal form – I was a horse once, you know – but it was the first time it was imposed on me from the outside, and it wasn't a nice feeling. Not a nice feeling at all.'

'It was worse for us,' said the bear. 'One moment you are fast asleep, dreaming about thunderstorms and the next you're being scrunched into a bear. They turned the All-Father into an eagle.'

The eagle screeched, startling Odd. 'Rage!' it said.

The bear said, 'The Giant laughed at us, waving my hammer around the while, and then he forced Heimdall to summon the Rainbow Bridge, and exiled the three of us here to Midgard. There's no more to tell.'

There was silence then, in the tiny hut. Only the crackle and spit of a pine branch on the fire.

'Well,' said Odd. 'Gods or not, I can't keep feeding you. If this winter keeps going, I don't think I can keep feeding me.'

'We won't die,' said the bear. 'Because we can't die here. But we'll get hungry. And we'll get more wild. More animal. It's something that happens when you have taken on animal form. Stay in it too long and you become what you pretend to be. When Loki was a horse –'

'We don't talk about that,' said the fox.



'So is that why the winter isn't ending?' said Odd.

'The Frost Giants like the winter. They *are* the winter,' said the bear.

'And if spring never comes? If summer doesn't happen? If this winter just goes on for ever?'

The bear said nothing. The fox swished its tail impatiently. They looked to the eagle. It tilted its head back, and with one fiery yellow eye it stared at Odd. Then it said, 'Death!'

'Eventually,' added the fox. 'Not immediately. In a year or so. And some creatures will go south. But most of the people and the animals will die. It's happened before, back when we had wars with the Frost Giants at the dawn of time. When they won, huge ice-sheets would cover this part of the world. When we won – and if it took us a hundred thousand years, we always did – the ice-sheets would retreat and the spring would return. But we were Gods then, not animals.'

'And I had my hammer,' said the bear.

'Well then,' said Odd. 'We'll set off as soon as it gets light enough to travel.'

'Set off?' said the fox. 'For where?'

'Asgard, of course,' said Odd, and he smiled his infuriating smile. Then he went back to his little bed, and he went back to sleep.

Tuesday Grammar:

Find 10 adverbs in the extract of the story and list them in your book.

Rewrite these sentences, adding suitable adverbs.

1. The boy waved his hand.
2. They went to church.
3. The dog trotted next to its owner.
4. Jack Frost stretched his icy fingers over the wet grass.
5. Emily ate her dinner.

Wednesday: VIPERS

Chapter Four- Making Rainbows.

The next day the four set off. Odd took with him the piece of wood his father had carved. He rode the bear's back and they talked as they went.

They had a problem. To get to Asgard, the place where the Gods came from, you crossed the Rainbow Bridge, known as the Bifrost. If you were a God, you simply wiggled your finger and a rainbow appeared and you walked across it.

Only now, they didn't have fingers and you don't get rainbows in the middle of winter.

Odd rides on the bear until he sees a waterfall. It is frozen now but he remembers how the sun shone on the mist, making rainbows. Odd tries to use his axe to make a hole in the waterfall but it is no use. He tries and tries until...

'Do that again and you'll break the axe,' said the fox. 'Or hurt yourself. Hold on.'

He nosed along the bank of the frozen pool for several minutes. Then he began scrabbling at the snow. 'Here,' he said. 'This is what you need.' He put his paw on a grey rock he had revealed.

Odd pulled at the stone, which came up easily from the ground, and it proved to be a flint. Part of it was grey, but the other part, the translucent part of the flint, was a deep salmon-pink colour, and it seemed to have been chipped.

'Don't touch the edges,' said the fox. 'It'll be sharp. Really sharp. They didn't mess about when they made those things, and they don't blunt easily if you make them well.'

'What is it?'

'A hand-axe. They used to do sacrifices here, on that big rock over there, and they used tools like this to slice up the animal and to part the flesh from the bones.'

'How do you know?' asked Odd.

There was satisfaction and pride in the fox's voice as it said, 'Who do you think they were making sacrifices to?'

Odd brought the tool over to the lump of ice. He ran his hands over the ice, slippery as a fish, then he began to attack it with the flint. The rock felt warm in his hands. Hot, even.

'It's hot,' said Odd.

'Is it?' said the fox, sounding pleased with itself.

The ice fell away under the flint axe, just as Odd had wanted it to. He hacked it into a shape that was almost triangular, thicker on one side than on the other.

The fox and the bear stood nearby watching. The eagle descended to see what was going on, landed in the leafless branches of a tree, and was still as a statue.

Odd took his ice triangle, and placed it so that the sunlight shone through it on to the white snow that drifted on the frozen pool. Nothing happened. He twisted it, tilted it, moved it around . . .

A puddle of light appeared on the snow, all the colours of the rainbow . . .



'How is that?' asked Odd.

'But it's on the ground,' said the bear doubtfully. 'It should be in the air. I mean, how can *that* be a bridge?'

The eagle took off from the tree with a clap of wings, and began to fly upwards.

'I don't think he's very impressed,' said the fox. 'Nice try, though.'

Odd shrugged. He could feel his mouth pulling up into a smile even as his heart sank. He had been so proud of himself, making a rainbow. His hands were numb. He hefted the stone axe, was about to throw it, hard, away from him, and then simply dropped it.

A screech. Odd looked up to see the eagle plummeting towards them. He began to step back, marvelling at the eagle's speed, wondering how the bird could pull out in time . . .

It didn't pull out.

The eagle hit the patch of coloured light on the white snow without slowing, as if it were diving into a pool of liquid water.

The puddle of colour splashed . . . and *opened*.

Scarlet fell softly about them and everything was outlined in greens and blues and the world was raspberry-coloured and leaf-coloured and golden-coloured and fire-coloured and blueberry-coloured and wine-coloured. Odd's world was colours, and, despite his crutch, he could feel himself falling forward, tumbling into the rainbow . . .

Everything went dark. Odd's eyes took moments to adjust, and when they did, above him was a velvet night sky, hung with a billion stars. A rainbow arced across it, and Odd was walking on the rainbow – no, not walking: his feet did not move. It felt as if he was being carried up the arch, going upwards, forwards, uncertain how fast he was travelling, only certain that he was somehow swept up in the colours, and that it was the colours of the rainbow that were carrying him along.

He looked behind him, wondering if he would see the snowy world he had left, but he saw nothing but blackness, empty even of stars.

Odd's stomach gave a sort of a lurch. He could feel himself dropping, and he turned his head to see the rainbow fading. Through the prism of colours he saw huge fir trees, foggy and purple and blue and red, and then the trees came into focus and found their own colour – a cool bluish green –

as Odd tumbled off the side of a fir tree and down into a drift of snow. The scent of bruised fir tree surrounded him.

It was daylight. He was wet, and cold, but unhurt.

He glanced up, but there was no sign of the Rainbow Bridge. Silently, across the thick snow, the fox and the bear were walking towards him. And then, with a rattle and a clatter, the eagle landed on a branch beside him, making the snow on the branch fall *flump* to the ground. The eagle looked less crazy now, thought Odd. And then, *It looks bigger*.

'Where is this place?' asked Odd, but he knew the answer, knew it even before the eagle threw back its head and screamed, with delight and with relish and with keen, dark joy,

'ASGARD!'

Vocabulary Harvest:

Find the meanings of these words:

Plummeting marvelling lurch translucent

What techniques does the author use to make this chapter exciting?

Why do you think there was pride and satisfaction in the fox's voice as he said, "Who do you think they were making sacrifices to?"

Do you think the Gods are good or bad? What makes you think this- use the text to help you explain your answer.

Adverbials:

Adverbials, or adverbial phrases, do the same job as adverbs.

They tell you when, where or how something is or was done.

1a. Match the adverbials to the most suitable main clause.

A. Just then,

1. we went home.

B. Finally,

2. I will be eight years old.

C. Next year,

3. there was a knock at the door.

1b. Match the adverbials to the most suitable main clause.

A. Outside,

1. the siren sounded.

B. Upstairs,

2. the children played on the swing.

C. Far away,

3. mum was running a bath.

translucent

1a. Match the adverbials to the most suitable main clause.

- A. In the blink of an eye,
- B. As the sun set over the mountains,
- C. In the final minute of the game,

- 1. the footballer scored his first goal.
- 2. we were inspired by the beautiful landscape.
- 3. the eagle shot across the sky.

1b. Match the adverbials to the most suitable main clause.

- A. Deep under the murky sea,
- B. On the other side of the street,
- C. Leaning out of the window,

- 1. the submarine headed for its target.
- 2. the man thought about the adventure ahead.
- 3. the new supermarket was being built.

Write your new sentences in your book.

Thursday: Grammar

Adverbial Phrases

Adverbial phrases are groups of words that act like adverbs. They tell you how, when, where or how often something happens.

Stephen reads the newspaper very slowly.
This describes how the action is done.

1 Underline the adverbial phrases in each of these sentences.

I arrived at school much earlier than usual.
He completed the work as quickly as possible.
I can play the violin better than my brother.
My sister ate her dinner really eagerly.

2 Write the adverbial phrases on the board. There are five adverbial phrases in total.

so suddenly
bright red lipstick
quite carefully
very softly
extremely loudly
unbelievably quickly
trashy television
the cat's tail

adverbial phrases

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Adverbial phrases don't always contain adverbs.

'During the film' does not contain an adverb, but it still describes when something happened.

Dad fell asleep during the film.

3 Tick the boxes next to the sentences that contain adverbial phrases. Then underline the adverbial phrases in these sentences.

I like to eat chocolate at the weekends.

I like to eat apples and cheese.

Twice a week I am allowed to eat crisps.

I like to eat chocolate in the bath.

I would choose chocolate over crisps.

4 Tick the boxes next to the groups of words that are adverbial phrases.

my secrets

extremely quietly

whilst swimming

his orders

a new routine

around the room

Use the adverbial phrases from above to complete these sentences.

She danced

I whispered

Caroline got wet

"I can use adverbial phrases in a sentence."



Friday:

Big Write day. Choose one of the following tasks. You can write and edit into your Distance Learning book or can present this as a file on your computer using word or publisher.

1. Imagine you have discovered the Rainbow Bridge. What happens when you cross it? What can you see? Hear? Who do you meet?
2. Write a page for an information book about the Viking Gods and Asgard.
3. Write a poem about a walk through the frozen forest.
4. Write a story about a magical journey with speaking animals.