

# Aspects of Narrative: Fantasy (The Hobbit)

## Context

Fantasy is a genre in literature that includes magical and/or supernatural elements as part of the plot, setting, or theme. Mythology and folklore often play a strong part in fantasy literature. There must be an internal consistency to the magical elements in a work of fantasy and a logic that, if not completely explicable, is understood to be reality by the characters. However, fantasy works can often combine the real world with a second fantastical reality, such as in the Harry Potter series where the protagonist grows up in contemporary England. The Hobbit is set in Middle-earth and is a fantasy greatly influenced by author J.R.R. Tolkien's love of Old English and the history and culture of the early English, Anglo-Saxons, and other groups that inhabited the rural area in which he grew up. Elements from Norse mythology and ancient English traditions and culture can also be found in Tolkien's tales. The names of the dwarves, some names of places, and the Raven's name, Roäc, are all found in Old Norse sagas. Many elements, such as named swords and encounters with Smaug, mirror details found in Beowulf, a story Tolkien admired.

## Narrative Summary

Hobbits, a race of small humanlike creatures, characteristically value peace, simplicity, and cozy homes yet are capable of incredible feats of courage and resourcefulness. The unwilling hero of The Hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, is persuaded to join Thorin and his 12 dwarfs to recover their stolen treasure, which is being guarded by the dragon Smaug. During the expedition, Bilbo finds a magical ring that renders the wearer invisible, which figures prominently in The Lord of the Rings. The Hobbit is the story of Bilbo's maturing from a seeker of warmth and comforts to a fighter, however humble, for the greater good. NOTE: Extracts.

## Themes / Ideas

Heroism	
Diversity	
Good & Evil	

## Key Vocab

Anti-hero	
Celestial	
Chimerical	
Conjure	
Fable	
Fantasy	
Hero	
Legend	
Myth	
Portent	

## Reading Skills

Retrieve, Interpret, Infer, Consider	
Analyse Methods (language)	

## Writing Skills

Speech: Persuade	
Describe: Image	
Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives.	
Discourse Markers, Paragraphing, Sentence Structure.	
Capital Letters, Full-Stops, Commas, Semi-Colons	

## Media Skills

Propp / Todorov Narrative Structure	
Representation	

## Assessment

HT1: Reading: Analyse a Fantasy prose extract (method, theme, context)	
HT2: Writing: Speech: Persuade	
HT1/2: Spoken English: Formal Debate	

J.R.R. TOLKIEN

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# Aspects of Narrative: Fantasy (Skellig)

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<b>Context</b>
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<b>Key Vocab</b>	
Anti-hero	
Celestial	
Chimerical	
Conjure	
Fable	
Fantasy	
Hero	
Legend	
Myth	
Portent	

<b>Reading Skills</b>	
Retrieve, Interpret, Infer, Consider	
Analyse Methods (language)	

<b>Writing Skills</b>	
Speech: Persuade	
Describe: Image	
Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives.	
Discourse Markers, Paragraphing, Sentence Structure.	
Capital Letters, Full-Stops, Commas, Semi-Colons	

<b>Media Skills</b>	
Propp / Todorov Narrative Structure	
Representation	

<b>Assessment</b>	
HT1: Reading: Analyse a Fantasy prose extract (method, theme, context)	
HT2: Writing: Speech: Persuade	
HT1/2: Spoken English: Formal Debate	

<b>Narrative Summary</b>
When Michael moves into a crumbling, old house with an ancient garage that he cannot resist going into, he encounters a mysterious creature named Skellig. Slowly they come to trust and care for each other and help each other through the most difficult phase of their lives. <b>Note:</b> William Blake 'Songs of Innocence and Experience (1794)': the importance of the poetry of William Blake to the context of Skellig is highlighted by the first reference to him in Chapter Fifteen. It comes directly after Mina's comments about her mother's belief in educating her daughter at home: 'My mother educates me...we believe that schools inhibit the natural curiosity, creativity and intelligence of children. The mind needs to be opened out into the world, not shuttered down inside a gloomy classroom.' The Blake references centre around the need to escape the vigilant eye of a rational adulthood and David Almond's first quotations are from 'The School-Boy'.



<b>Themes / Ideas</b>	
Love & Transformation	
Environment	
Magical Realism	

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# Aspects of Narrative: Fantasy (Grimm's Fairytales)

**Context**  
 Fantasy is a genre in literature that includes magical and/or supernatural elements as part of the plot, setting, or theme. Mythology and folklore often play a strong part in fantasy literature. There must be an internal consistency to the magical elements in a work of fantasy and a logic that, if not completely explicable, is understood to be reality by the characters. However, fantasy works can often combine the real world with a second fantastical reality, such as in the Harry Potter series where the protagonist grows up in contemporary England. The Brothers Grimm wished to represent their folk stories as having been gathered on visits to long-forgotten corners of the countryside. Like many other scholars of the period, the Grimms cherished the idea that the country's folk, or common people, were the most important source of its strength. Peasants, woodchoppers, huntsmen, and farmers were believed to embody the values of a simpler, preindustrial era when people had lived close to nature. In the preface to the 1812 edition of the tales, the brothers compared stories from the folk to forgotten ears of corn: "Only late in summer, when the ears are ripe and heavy with grain, some poor humble hand will glean them ... The little bundles will be carried home, more cherished than big sheaves."

Key Vocab	
Anti-hero	
Celestial	
Chimerical	
Conjure	
Fable	
Fantasy	
Hero	
Legend	
Myth	
Portent	

Reading Skills	
Retrieve, Interpret, Infer, Consider	
Analyse Methods (language)	

Writing Skills	
Speech: Persuade	
Describe: Image	
Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives.	
Discourse Markers, Paragraphing, Sentence Structure.	
Capital Letters, Full-Stops, Commas, Semi-Colons	

Media Skills	
Propp / Todorov Narrative Structure	
Representation	

Assessment	
HT1: Reading: Analyse a Fantasy prose extract (method, theme, context)	
HT2: Writing: Speech: Persuade	
HT1/2: Spoken English: Formal Debate	

**Narrative Summary**  
 Various Stories.

Themes / Ideas	
Social Class	
Good and Evil	
Justice	

FROM THE  
 BROTHERS  
 GRIMM



# Aspects of Narrative: Fantasy (A Monster Calls)

**Context**  
 Fantasy is a genre in literature that includes magical and/or supernatural elements as part of the plot, setting, or theme. Mythology and folklore often play a strong part in fantasy literature. There must be an internal consistency to the magical elements in a work of fantasy and a logic that, if not completely explicable, is understood to be reality by the characters. However, fantasy works can often combine the real world with a second fantastical reality, such as in the Harry Potter series where the protagonist grows up in contemporary England. A Monster Calls was originally conceived by Siobhan Dowd while she had cancer. She discussed it and contracted to write it with editor Denise Johnstone-Burt at Walker Books, who also worked with Patrick Ness. After Dowd's death in August 2007, Walker arranged for Ness to write the story. 'She had the characters, a premise, and a beginning. What she didn't have, unfortunately, was time.' —Patrick Ness, in the Author's Note to A Monster Calls

**Narrative Summary**  
 Conor is dealing with far more than other boys his age. His beloved and devoted mother is ill. He has little in common with his imperious grandmother. His father has resettled thousands of miles away. But Conor finds a most unlikely ally when the Monster appears at his bedroom window one night. Ancient, wild, and relentless, the Monster guides Conor on a journey of courage, faith, and truth that powerfully fuses imagination and reality.

<b>Themes / Ideas</b>	
Family	
The Supernatural	
Isolation	

<b>Key Vocab</b>	
Anti-hero	
Celestial	
Chimerical	
Conjure	
Fable	
Fantasy	
Hero	
Legend	
Myth	
Portent	

<b>Reading Skills</b>	
Retrieve, Interpret, Infer, Consider	
Analyse Methods (language)	

<b>Writing Skills</b>	
Speech: Persuade	
Describe: Image	
Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives.	
Discourse Markers, Paragraphing, Sentence Structure.	
Capital Letters, Full-Stops, Commas, Semi-Colons	

<b>Media Skills</b>	
Propp / Todorov Narrative Structure	
Representation	

<b>Assessment</b>	
HT1: Reading: Analyse a Fantasy prose extract (method, theme, context)	
HT2: Writing: Speech: Persuade	
HT1/2: Spoken English: Formal Debate	

PATRICK NESS  
 TWICE CARNEGIE-MEDAL WINNER

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 TWICE CARNEGIE-MEDAL WINNER

CALLS  
 "Exceptional ... shines with compassion" *Daily Mail*

"Outstanding" *The Times*

"Outstanding" *The Times*