

Beowulf: Year 6 Narrative Planning & Model Text

A comprehensive planning framework paired with a Year 6 standard model text to demonstrate advanced grammar and vocabulary choices.

1. Year 6 Grammar Toolkit

Before writing, ensure your plan includes opportunities to use these Year 6 framework features:

- **Passive Voice:** (e.g., *The grand hall was constructed by King Hrothgar...*)
- **Fronted Adverbials with Commas:** (e.g., *Deep within the murky depths of the fen, ...*)
- **Expanded Noun Phrases:** (e.g., *The grotesque, scale-armoured beast...*)
- **Subordinating & Coordinating Conjunctions:** For varying sentence lengths and structures.

2. The 5-Part Narrative Layout

• Introduction: Heorot & The Hero

Focus: Establish a golden, glittering mead-hall full of music and laughter. Introduce Beowulf arriving from across the gray sea.

Word Bank: opulent, shimmering, dynamic warrior, courageous, echo

• Inciting Incident: Grendel's Terror

Focus: Contrast the hall's light with the dark, foul marshlands. Grendel strikes silently under cover of night.

Word Bank: grotesque, malice-filled, creeping shadows, slaughter

• The Climax: The Brutal Battle

Focus: Beowulf rejects weapons to fight bare-handed. Describe the shattering impact of the clash.

Word Bank: tectonic struggle, relentless grip, agonizing shriek, severed

• The Twist: The Mother's Revenge

Focus: Just as victory settles, a deeper terror emerges from the boiling mudpools. Beowulf must dive into her underwater lair.

Word Bank: vengeful matriarch, murky depths, suffocating, ancient blade

• Resolution: A Hero's Legacy

Focus: The monsters are vanquished. Gold and honor are bestowed upon Beowulf. Peace returns, cementing his legend.

Word Bank: restored harmony, boundless treasure, immortalized, triumph

3. Year 6 Model Text Example

Below is an exemplar passage demonstrating how to turn the planning notes into high-impact narrative writing:

The Coming of Grendel

Enveloped in the golden glow of the shimmering hearth, the legendary mead-hall of Heorot echoed with the joyful merriment of King Hrothgar's bravest men. However, far beyond the warmth of the roaring fires, a sinister presence stirred. Deep within the suffocating darkness of the stagnant fen, the grotesque beast Grendel brooded. Driven by an ancient malice, the creature loathed the sweet sound of human celebration.

Without warning, the heavy oak doors were shattered as the fiend breached the hall under the bleak cover of midnight. Savage, bloodthirsty claws tore through the unsuspecting shadows. Thirty warriors were instantly slaughtered by the merciless colossus before a single blade could be drawn. As dawn broke over the devastated

kingdom, tears of bitter anguish were shed by the helpless king. The golden age of Heorot had been plunged into a twelve-year reign of absolute terror—until a courageous Geatish warrior set sail to answer their desperate cries.