



The Savage by David Almond

Fiction

Theme: Ambition

Key vocabulary: destiny, unison, desolate, heather, barren, moor, melancholy,

The Savage

1. To explore the themes of a text
2. To use role-play to respond to a text
3. To use expanded noun phrases
4. To use dialogue to reveal character and advance action
5. To plan a narrative

6 & 7. To write a narrative

1. Themes lesson: Ambition. Key vocabulary lesson: destiny, unison, desolate, heather, barren, moor, melancholy
2. Sequence the story. Then in groups freeze frame, hot seating.
3. Magpieing from forest story. Model effective expanded noun phrases using of e.g. The loud thumping of the horse's hooves...and on e.g. The thick mist on the top of the moor..., or two progressive verbs forms after the noun e.g. The menacing witches, cackling and grinning.... Model ensuring there is still a main verb so sentences make sense. LAPs to focus on two adjectives before noun.
4. Model how to use speech to reveal character and show emotion - show not tell. Then model how to use speech to move the action on - give orders and commands through speech to show what is happening. Explain why both are necessary with a narrative. LAPs just focus on correct speech punctuation with comma and using a phrase after speech to show emotion.
5. To plan a narrative: 1) describe the scene. 2) the witches talk 3) Macbeth and Banquo arrive. Focus in on characters and expanded noun phrases to describe them.
6. Live modelling of writing. Learners write own version

SC:

Passive voice

Parenthesis () - - ; , ,

Formal tone and
technical vocabulary
Cohesive devices –
adverbs, pronouns

Witches **have been celebrated** in recent years as figures of fun in the likes of the “Wizard of Oz” and in the “Harry Potter” book serialisation. **However, their** history is far darker than this modern-day interpretation.

Witches **can be recognised** because they have a few distinguishing features. **They** are **frequently** unusually wrinkled and often warts **can be found** upon their hands and faces; these tend to be larger than those spotted on normal women. Identification **can also be achieved** through observing if any birth mark – like a scar or piece of raised skin - is present. If **such a mark** is evident, it proves that the witch has deeply evil, powerful abilities to cause harm to others.

More often than not, a witch is a solitary individual who rarely seeks company. Because of this, little is known of them. What is known, is that many witches will meet on the Sabbath (**Saturday**) where they will gather as a coven - the name given to a group of witches. **It is believed that, at these coven meetings,** witches will swap spells, potions and incantations **as well as** discuss the various curses they may have performed on people who have persecuted them.

Witches often have familiars (**demons in animal form**), to help them perform tasks and spy on those who may want to persecute them. **These familiars usually** take the form of a cat or rat, although it was not unheard of for them to be bats, snakes or even the much-loved field mouse! An important task that familiars perform is assisting the witch in communing with the dark lord. This is part of witch lore that is least well known on account of its obvious danger to the body and mind. **It is thought** to be extremely dangerous.

SC:

Passive voice including it
is said that, it
is believed that, witches
are seen as
Pronouns
Brackets

LAPs

It is believed that wicked witches have roamed Great Britain for many years. Because they are secretive, not much is known about them.

Appearance

It is said that they are incredibly ugly and bent-backed. As well as this, a large number of witches possess the Devil’s mark (a red scar). **This** shows the true potential of a witch.

Habitat

Witches live in forests, abandoned houses and caves. **These** are normally on the edge of villages. Witches despise people who come anywhere near their territory as witches feel calmer when alone. Also, dark, shadowy places are popular with witches as **these** enable them to hide.

Familiars

Witches typically have a familiar they use to communicate with Satan (the Devil). **These** are often cats, rats and toads. As **these** creatures are not really from this world, **they** are angry predators of humans. They love eating human flesh and even more horrible things.

Punishments

Witches are seen as evil. **This** means **they have been punished** for hundreds of years. Punishment can involve being pushed off a cliff, being burnt at a stake or drowning. Over the years, witch hunters **have been recruited** by kings to find them and torture **them**.

Live modelling – sharing thought process for word selection. Cover when learners writing

Build suspense through description
- expanded noun phrases.

Use speech to convey character
and move action on.

GD challenge: Power of three (ensure not all children using same structure in same place – model different options)

Passive to show Macbeth's fear and create suspense

Whistling and wailing, the chilling wind swept over the scene of slaughter on the barren moor. The land was littered with the bloodied bodies of iron-clad men, twisted and decapitated amongst the coarse heather. Horses - who had been charging towards the enemy only an hour before – now lay lifeless alongside splintered shields and lost weapons. The sweet melancholy of birds, pipping and chirping, was drowned out by the lashing rain and rolling thunder. And, in the distance, hidden by mist and magic, stood three cloaked figures. They were watching. They were plotting. They were waiting.

As the last moans of the dying evaporated into the evening air, the tallest of the creatures, lifted her crumpled face to the desolate sky. Her wild hair was streaming like a tattered flag in the wind. She sniffed, taking in the scent of the living and the dead. "He will be with us soon," she said. "We will not wait much longer."

The second witch, stroking her familiar – a ginger cat- nodded and grinned.

"He is approaching. I hear the horse's hooves," she confirmed. The third momentarily stopped stirring her potion and looked to the horizon, "I too see him," she said. "May our prophecy begin."

Macbeth and Banquo unknowingly rode towards their destiny. Their heads were lowered against the driving rain and Macbeth's dark eyes were distant as he recalled the havoc and horror of the day. It had been a hard fight, an unnecessary fight, a hopeless fight to protect a feeble king. Suddenly, Macbeth's thoughts were interrupted. His horse whinnied and reared up, its eyes wide with terror. Macbeth struggled to control it. Then, below him, he saw the three weird sisters barring his way. His hand immediately flew to his sword, but Banquo hissed "No, friend. I do not think swords can hurt strange beings like these." A small, cold fear entered Macbeth's heart and he turned his face to disguise it.

"What do you want?" he demanded of the witches. "Stand aside!" They did not move.

"Who are you?" asked Macbeth, his fear multiplying.

"We are your fate; we are your destiny; we are your guide to being the king!" cackled the hags in unison.

Then, moving as one, the witches pointed their crooked fingers at Macbeth. As they spoke, their voices grated like iron on stone. "All hail Macbeth. You shall be King!" A startled gasp was heard by all. Macbeth shivered. How had these withered crones come to read his innermost thoughts?

His sweaty palms reached again for the sword at his side. Eyes wide in fear, Macbeth struggled to find his voice,

"What do you mean? King?"

One of the witches crept closer. Its anguine eyes, savage and cunning, were full of malice. Her voice, if you could describe it as that, sounded sickly and full of disease. "Yes, Lord Macbeth - King!" The creature smiled slyly, showing her teeth - a row of blackened stubs like tombstones. The witches turned to Banquo "All hail Banquo!" They chanted. "You shall not be King, but your children shall!" With that, they vanished like a mist of breath on a mirror.

Live modelling – sharing thought process for word selection. Cover when learners writing

Build suspense through description
- expanded noun phrases.

Death was everywhere. The chilling wind swept over the barren moor. The land was covered with bloodied bodies, lost weapons and lifeless horses. The rolling thunder roared through the air. The driving rain soaked the earth. In the middle of the moor were three cloaked witches. They stood. They watched. They waited.

Punctuate speech correctly

The tallest witch lifted her crumpled face to the black sky. Her wild hair was tangled and her nose was crooked. She sniffed, taking in the scent of the living and the dead.

"He will be here soon," she said.

The second witch, stroking her ginger cat nodded and grinned.

"He is approaching," she confirmed. The third stopped stirring her potion and looked to the distance,

"I too see him," she said.

Pronouns for cohesion

Macbeth and Banquo rode towards the nasty creatures. Their heads were down and Macbeth's tired eyes were sad. He was remembering the horror of the day...