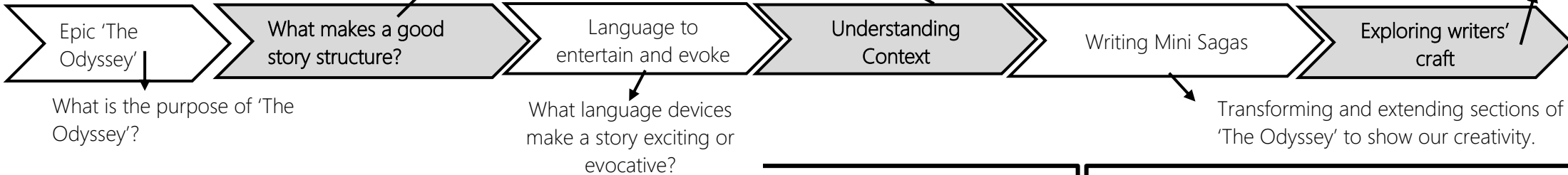# Learning Organiser for English – Y7 Epic 'The Odyssey'

What am I going to learn?

7 stages of Freytag's plot structure

What is 'The Odyssey' and when was it written?

Showing what we understand about how writers use language and structure to create impact.

Epic 'The Odyssey' → What makes a good story structure? → Language to entertain and evoke → Understanding Context → Writing Mini Sagas → Exploring writers' craft

What is the purpose of 'The Odyssey'?

What language devices make a story exciting or evocative?

Transforming and extending sections of 'The Odyssey' to show our creativity.

Epic 'The Odyssey'

An Epic is a long poem, typically one derived from ancient oral tradition, narrating the deeds and adventures of heroic or legendary figures or the past history of a nation.
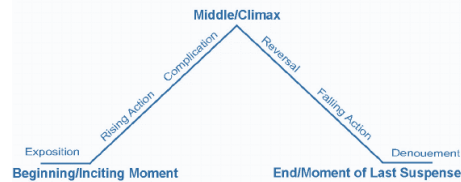
An Epic Poem is a long narrative poem which centres on a heroic figure, whose actions affect an entire people or nation.

Traditional epics - written versions of poems that were originally only spoken. Examples: the Iliad, the Odyssey and Beowulf.

Literary epics - composed later, deliberately copying traditional epics but written down rather than spoken.

Homer was the legendary author of the Iliad and the Odyssey. These were two great poems that became central works of ancient Greek literature. There were many accounts of Homer's life that circulated in the centuries after his death. Some of the most widespread rumors were that he was blind, and that he was thought to be from a region known as Ionia.

Freytag's Pyramid For Plot Structure

Exposition: the background; the setting.

Inciting Incident: The moment that starts the action.

Rising Action: What happens after the inciting incident leading towards the climax.

Complication: The problem for the character gets more complex.

Climax: The point at which the main character in the story will succeed or fail.

Reversal: the events reflect the change that occurred in the climax, and the author foreshadows the resolution.

Falling Action/Denouement: The consequences of the outcome of the climax.

How to Analyse the writer's craft...

What?- What point can we make about what we have read to answer the question?

How?- Include a quotation from the text to show the words the writer uses and name a technique used by the writer to explore the writer's craft.

Why?- Explore and suggest reasons for why the writer has used these words and techniques explaining the effect upon the reader and the writer's intentions

What is a Mini-Saga?

- ✓ Write a mythological monster saga in 50 words or less.
- ✓ Use relative clauses- that, which, who, whose, when, whom.
- ✓ Use interesting adjectives and vocabulary.
- ✓ Use a simile and metaphor

Key Vocabulary to Learn

Ancient: belonging to the very distant past

Narrative: a spoken or written account of connected events; a story

Epithet: phrase describing a quality a person has or describing what a person is like.

Fantastical: something strange and wonderful.Fantasy.

Autonomy (noun): self control, control over your life.

Divine (adjective): Godly, like a god

Bard (noun): a poet, traditionally one reciting epics and associated with a particular oral tradition

Influential (adjective): having great influence on someone or something

Ingenuity: being clever, original or inventive.

Cunning (adjective): having or showing skill in achieving one's ends by deceit or evasion

Ceaseless (adjective): constant and unending

Resourceful: being able to find quick and clever ways to overcome something.

Nemesis: a rival or arch enemy.

Hindrance: something that obstructs, delays or stops something from happening.

Intimidating: having a frightening, overawing, or threatening effect

Malevolent : having or showing a wish to do evil to others

Monstrous: having the ugly or frightening appearance of a monster.