

“Do Now” Work

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Task: Write a definition for the following techniques:

- simile
- metaphor
- personification
- alliteration
- onomatopoeia

Use the glossary in your exercise book to help you.

In Silence Please

 **BOURNVILLE**
SCHOOL

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Shelley, Wordsworth and Blake were Romantic poets. Romantic poetry (with a capital R) focuses on feelings and emotions which are provoked by interactions with nature.

Some key Romantic ideas include a focus on the power of nature, imagination, revolution, the world of children and the lives of people marginalised in society.

You studied 'London' by Blake and 'Upon Westminster Bridge' by Wordsworth in Year 8.

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Ozymandias is another name for one of Egypt's most famous pharaohs – Ramses II or Ramses the Great. He was a warrior king and a builder of temples, statues and monuments. 'Ozymandias' is about a broken statue of the Egyptian pharaoh Rameses II.

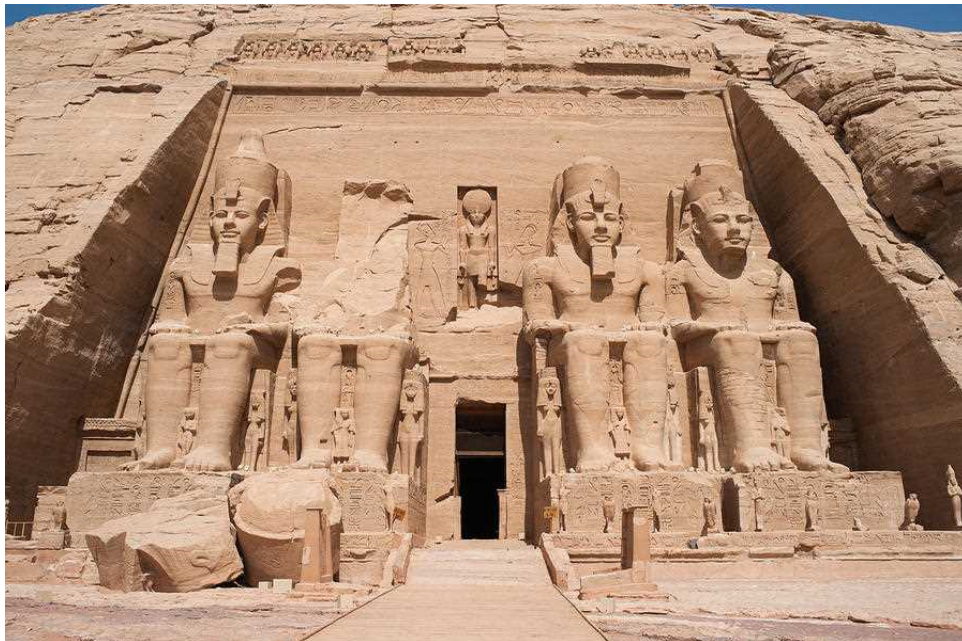
Shelley shows that nature is more powerful than man. He mocks those who think they are invincible by showing that the power of humans doesn't last.

'Ozymandias' can be read as a criticism of people or systems that become huge and believe themselves to be invincible.

Shelley was critical of the royal family and monarchical government in England and sympathised with the ideals behind the French Revolution. 'Ozymandias' has been read by some as a condemnation of undemocratic or tyrannical government, reflecting Shelley's radical views.

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.



How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.



How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Key Words

- 'visage' – face
- 'pedestal' – the base of the statue
- 'Ozymandias' – another name for King Rameses II, a powerful Egyptian ruler
- 'colossal' – huge

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

I met a traveller from an antique land,
Who said—"Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert. . . . Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;
And on the pedestal, these words appear:
My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings;
Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal Wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away."

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

'Ozymandias' is a Petrarchan sonnet. However, Shelley subverts the sonnet form as it doesn't follow a regular sonnet rhyme scheme, reflecting the fact that human power can be destroyed.

Shelley uses iambic pentameter, but this is often disrupted. For example, in line 11, 'Look' is a stressed syllable, but it is at the start of the line.

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

The speaker hasn't seen the statue themselves which further undermines Ozymandias' power and creates a distance between the speaker and the statue.

I met a traveller from an antique land,
Who said—"Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert. . . . Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;
And on the pedestal, these words appear:
My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings;
Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal Wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away."

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.



How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

I met a traveller from an antique land,
 Who said—"Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
 Stand in the desert. . . . Near them, on the sand,
 Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
 And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
 Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
 Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
 The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;
 And on the pedestal, these words appear:
 My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings;
 Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!
 Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
 Of that colossal Wreck, boundless and bare
 The lone and level sands stretch far away."

Handwritten notes:

- isolated** (pointing to "antique land")
- hidden - nature is powerful** (pointing to "desert")
- broken** (pointing to "shattered visage")
- cruel leader - tyrant / tyrannical** (pointing to "frown, And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command")
- verb choice** (pointing to "stamped")
- not liked** (pointing to "mocked them")
- art outlasted human power but nature is more powerful** (pointing to "yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things")
- power is temporary** (pointing to "Nothing beside remains")
- He is arrogant** (pointing to "King of Kings")
- lonely and barren** (pointing to "lone and level sands")
- caesura** (pointing to "ye Mighty")
- alliteration + assonance** (pointing to "boundless and bare")
- God / most powerful** (pointing to "King of Kings")
- iconic - statue is broken / power doesn't last** (pointing to "shattered visage")
- breaks iambic pentameter - shows his attempt at power and command** (pointing to "Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!")

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

I met a traveller from an antique land, *broken*
 Who said—"Two vast and *trunkless* legs of stone
 Stand in the *desert* . . . Near them, on the sand,
 Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose *frown*, *cruel leader, tyrant/tyrannical*
 And *wrinkled lip*, and *sneer* of *cold command*
 Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
 Which yet *survive*, stamped on these *lifeless* things, *undermines his power*
 The hand that *mocked* them, and the heart that fed;
 And on the pedestal, these words appear:
 My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings;
 Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!
 Nothing beside remains. Round the *decay*
 Of that colossal Wreck, boundless and bare
 The lone and *level sands* stretch far away."

isolation
hidden powers of nature
plus - ridiculous - makes mockery
imperative
breaks iambic pentameter
size - human achievement don't last - nature + time last.
caesura
alliteration
assonance
semantic field - ruin.
isolation - empty and barren.
ironic: no works left/destroyed undermines human power
God arrogant

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Comprehension Questions

1. Who is the speaker in the poem?
2. What is in the desert?
3. Who was Ozymandias?
4. Where does the traveller come from?
5. What does he say about the sculptor?
6. What sort of ruler was Ozymandias?
7. What size is the statue?
8. What traditional poetic form is used in 'Ozymandias'?

Deeper Thinking Questions

1. What is the significance of the desert in this poem?
2. Why does Shelley use the sonnet form for this poem?
3. How does Shelley present power?
4. Who is more powerful – the artist or the dictator?

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Compare the ways poets present power in 'Ozymandias' and in one other poem from 'Power and Conflict'.

How does Shelley present his ideas in 'Ozymandias'?

Be able to identify techniques and explore the effect on the reader.

Compare the ways poets present power in 'Ozymandias' and in one other poem from 'Power and Conflict'.

Introduction: Two sentences. Answer the question **and** make your first comparison.

Both...

However, ... whereas...

Both Shelley and Owen present the destructive power of nature in their poems. **However**, Shelley shows that nature is more powerful than human arrogance **whereas** Owen presents the idea that nature was like the enemy in the trenches in the winter of 1917.

'Ozymandias' Shelley

Context:

Shelley was a Romantic poet; Romantic poets were interested in the power of emotion and the power of nature. He wrote this poem in 1817. Ozymandias is another name for the Egyptian pharaoh Rameses II. It is a criticism of those who think they are invincible. Shelley subverts the sonnet form which could imply that he is mocking the idea that Rameses II loved himself.

Themes:

Power of nature
Power of humans

S 'I met a traveller' - The speaker hasn't heard of Ozymandias which implies that he is no longer well known - undermines his power.

P 'sneer of a cold command' implies that he was a tyrannical ruler. His power and arrogance is ironic now that the statue is in ruins.

L 'King of Kings... ye Mighty and despair!' implies that Ozymandias saw himself as a God-like figure. This undermines the power of humans; he no longer has authority and nobody is listening.

I 'half sunk' - nature is more powerful than humans. Over time, nature has overpowered the statue. Human power is finite; it doesn't last.

T 'boundless and bare... sands stretch far away' - the desert is vast and survives far longer than the broken statue, emphasising the insignificance of the statue and Ozymandias. The alliteration and assonance emphasise this.

