

Y4 Information Text: Biography

Example Text

Who Was the Real Troll of the Bridge?

Thorvald the Troll was born in the 19th century in northern Norway. He came from the town of Tromsø although he spent most of his life in the mountains.

Early Life

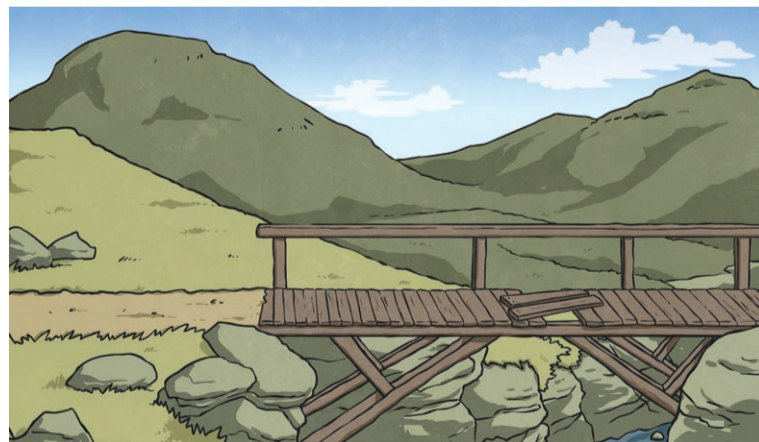
When Thorvald was born, his family were very surprised because he had a squashed nose, pointy ears and huge green eyes. His older sister trolls Ava, Anna and Elsa loved him very much even though he looked very different to them. Anna remembers, "Thorvald was always smiling and laughing."

Then he went to school and everything changed. The other trolls, goats and sheep in his class laughed at him because of how he looked so he was extremely upset. On one occasion, an unkind child even tripped him up so he fell on his face. After that, his teeth were permanently wonky.

Thorvald's parents knew his favourite subject was nature so they often went to observe the animals' and plants' lives. He became quite an expert and could name almost any bird or flower that he saw!

Growing Up and Moving On

When he was an adult, Thorvald found it hard to get work because everyone said he was too ugly. After a while, a farmer gave him a job mending bridges. Thorvald had to check each one and repair any damage. He was a tremendous worker and enjoyed spending his days out in the fresh air. Plus, he won a special award for protecting the countryside.



Y4 Information Text: Biography

Example Text

Nasty Neighbours

He lived in a cosy cave under one of the bridges and was very happy. However, some people still made fun of him. Three irresponsible billy goats from the next meadow came to annoy him every day. They trip-trapped noisily over the bridge while Thorvald was trying to sleep. Eventually, this made him so cross that he climbed up and shouted at them. They pushed him right off the bridge and into the water! Luckily, Thorvald was a great swimmer with lots of swimming awards and escaped further down the river.

A Quiet Life

Thorvald decided that he would go and live secretly up in the mountains. He wrote books all about wildlife but he didn't use his real name. He also opened a home for retired goats. Thorvald died when he was 97 years old. Most people remember him as an angry, dangerous monster and say he ate billy goats but this is simply incorrect. He was actually a really kind but sadly misunderstood creature.



Y4 Information Text: Biography

Annotated Genre Features

¹an introduction that summarises the main events of the person's life

²the key events in a person's life in chronological paragraphs

³verbs written in past tense

⁴sentences written in the third person using third person pronouns (e.g. he, she, they)

⁵the person's feelings about different points and events in their life

⁶a conclusion about how they are/will be remembered

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Thorvald the Troll was born in the 19th century in northern Norway. He came from the town of Tromsø although he spent most of his life in the mountains.

Early Life

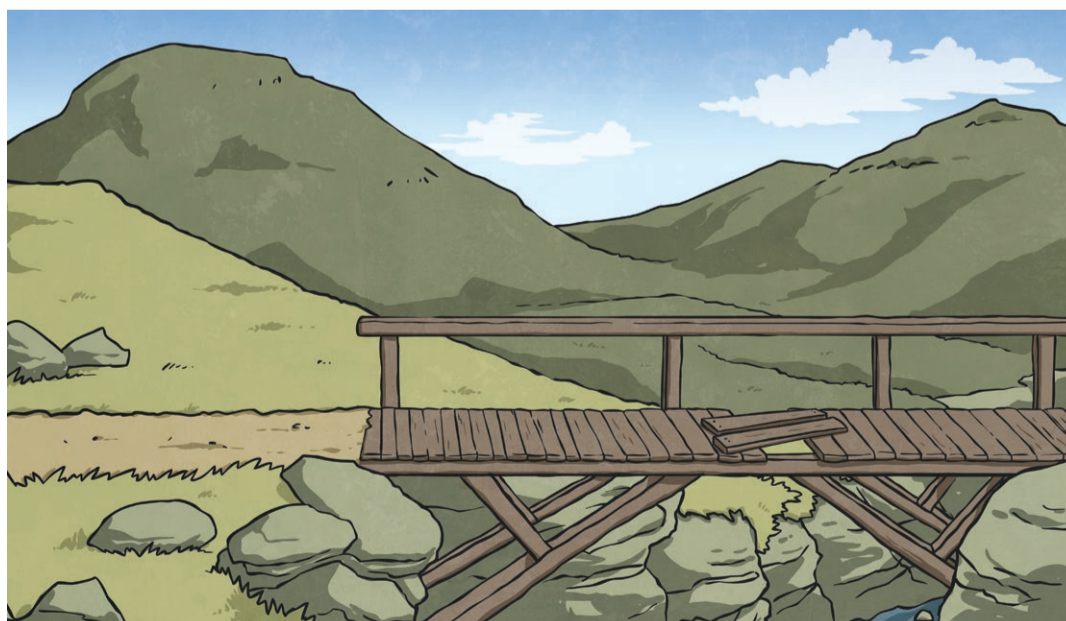
When Thorvald was born, his family⁴ were very surprised because he had³ a squashed nose, pointy ears and huge green eyes. His older sister trolls⁴ Ava, Anna and Elsa loved³ him very much even though he looked³ very different to them. Anna remembers, "Thorvald was⁴ always smiling and laughing⁵."

Then he⁴ went³ to school and everything changed. The other trolls⁴, goats and sheep in his class laughed³ at him because of how he looked so he was extremely upset⁵. On one occasion, an unkind child⁴ even tripped³ him up so he fell⁴ on his face. After that, his teeth were permanently wonky.

Thorvald's parents knew³ his favourite subject was nature⁵ so they often went to observe the animals' and plants' lives. He became³ quite an expert and could name almost any bird or flower that he saw!

Growing Up and Moving On

When he was an adult, Thorvald found it hard to get work because everyone⁴ said³ he was too ugly. After a while, a farmer⁴ gave³ him a job mending bridges. Thorvald had to check each one and repair any damage. He was a tremendous worker and enjoyed^{3&5} spending his days out in the fresh air. Plus, he won³ a special award for protecting the countryside.



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Nasty Neighbours

He lived³ in a cosy cave under one of the bridges and was very happy⁵. However, some people⁴ still made³ fun of him. Three irresponsible billy goats from the next meadow came³ to annoy him every day. They⁴ trip-trapped noisily over the bridge while Thorvald was trying to sleep. Eventually, this made him so cross⁵ that he climbed³ up and shouted³ at them. They pushed³ him right off the bridge and into the water! Luckily, Thorvald was a great swimmer with lots of swimming awards and escaped³ further down the river.

A Quiet Life

Thorvald decided³ that he would go and live secretly up in the mountains. He wrote³ books all about wildlife but he didn't³ use his real name. He also opened a home for retired goats. Thorvald died when he was 97 years old. Most people⁴ remember him as an angry, dangerous monster and say he ate³ billy goats but this is simply incorrect. He was actually a really kind but sadly misunderstood creature.



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Annotated Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Features

All text Uses the full range of spelling, grammar and punctuation features that have been taught in previous year groups.

Who Was the Real Troll of the Bridge?⁴

Thorvald the Troll **was**² born in the 19th **century**¹⁴ in **northern**¹³ Norway. He **came**² from the town of Tromsø **although**¹⁴ he spent most of his life in the mountains.

⁸Uses possessive apostrophes accurately for plural possession, e.g. girls' toilets, children's toys.

² Uses Standard English verb inflections consistently, e.g. we were NOT we was, I did NOT I done.

Early Life⁴

When Thorvald was born⁷, **his**⁵ family were very surprised because **he**⁵ had a **squashed nose**⁶, **pointy ears**⁶ and **huge green eyes**⁶. **His**⁵ older sister trolls Ava, Anna and Elsa loved him very much even though he looked very **different**¹⁴ to them. Anna **remembers**¹⁴, "**Thorvald was always smiling and laughing.**"⁹

⁹Uses all the necessary punctuation in direct speech.

³Organises their writing into paragraphs around a theme.

¹⁰Spells a wider range of words with prefixes correctly, e.g. irrelevant, autograph, incorrect, disobey, superstar, antisocial.

⁴ Uses simple layout devices in non-fiction, e.g. headings and sub-headings.

Then he went to school and **everything**¹³ changed. **The other trolls, goats and sheep in his class**⁶ laughed at him because of how he looked so he was **extremely**¹¹ **upset**¹⁰. **On one**⁷ **occasion**^{12&14}, an **unkind**¹⁰ child even tripped him up so he fell on his face. **After that**⁷, his teeth **were**² **permanently**¹¹ wonky.

¹¹Spells a wider range of words with suffixes correctly, e.g. usually, poisonous, adoration.

⁵ Chooses to use nouns or pronouns appropriately to aid cohesion and avoid repetition, e.g. he, she, they, it.

Thorvald's parents **knew**¹² his **favourite**¹⁴ subject was nature so **they**⁵ often went to observe **the animals' and plants' lives**⁸. He **became**² quite an expert and could name almost any bird or **flower**¹² that he saw!

¹²Spells homophones correctly, e.g. which and witch.

Growing Up and Moving On⁴

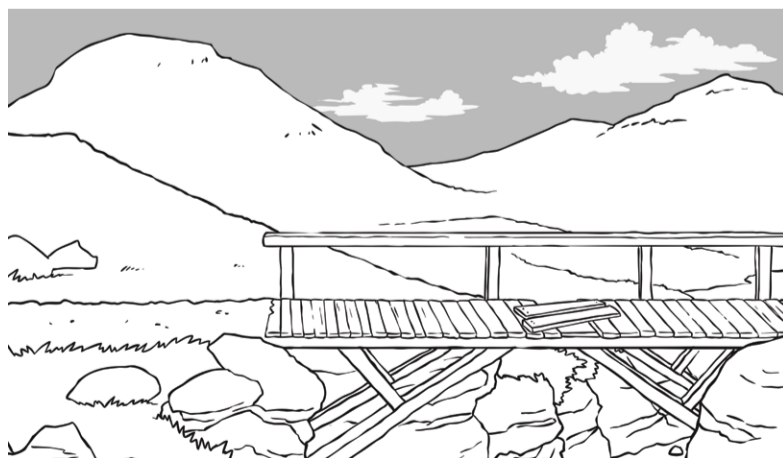
When he was an adult⁷, Thorvald found it hard to get work because **everyone**^{5&13} said he was **too**¹² ugly. **After a while**⁷, a farmer gave him a job mending bridges. Thorvald had to check each **one**⁵ and repair any damage. He was a **tremendous**¹¹ worker and enjoyed spending his days out in the **fresh air**⁶. **Plus**⁷, he **won**² **a**⁶ **special**¹⁴ **award for protecting the countryside**⁶.

¹³Uses knowledge of word families to help with their spelling.

⁶Uses noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives and prepositional phrases, e.g. the strict teacher with curly hair.

¹⁴Spells all of the year 3 and 4 statutory spelling words correctly.

⁷Uses fronted adverbials, e.g. As quick as a flash, Last weekend, etc. followed by a comma.



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Annotated Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Features

All text¹ Uses the full range of spelling, grammar and punctuation features that have been taught in previous year groups.

Nasty Neighbours⁴

He lived in **a cosy cave under one of the bridges**⁶ and was very happy. **However**,⁷ **some**¹² people still **made**² fun of him. **Three irresponsible**^{10&11} **billy goats from the next meadow**⁶ came to annoy **him**⁵ every day. They trip-trapped **noisily**¹¹ over the bridge while Thorvald was trying to sleep. **Eventually**,⁷ **this**⁵ made him so cross that he climbed up and shouted at **them**⁵. **They**⁵ pushed him **right**¹² off the bridge and into the water! **Luckily**¹¹, Thorvald was a **great swimmer with lots of swimming awards**⁶ and escaped further down the river.

² Uses Standard English verb inflections consistently, e.g. we were NOT we was, I did NOT I done.

³ Organises their writing into paragraphs around a theme.

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A Quiet Life⁴

Thorvald **decided**¹⁴ that **he**⁵ would go and live **secretly**¹¹ up in the mountains. He wrote books all about **wildlife**¹³ but he didn't use **his**⁵ real name. He also opened a home for retired goats. Thorvald died when he was 97 years old. Most people **remember**² him as **an angry, dangerous monster**⁶ and say he **ate**^{2&12} billy goats but this is **simply**¹¹ **incorrect**¹⁰. He was actually a **really**¹¹ kind but sadly **misunderstood**¹⁰ **creature**⁵.



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Growing Up and Moving On⁴

When he was an adult⁷, Thorvald found it hard to get work because **everyone**^{5&13} said he was **too**¹² ugly. **After a while**⁷, a farmer gave him a job mending bridges. Thorvald had to check each **one**⁵ and repair any damage. He was a **tremendous**¹¹ worker and enjoyed spending his days out in the **fresh air**⁶. **Plus**⁷, he **won**² a **special**¹⁴ award for protecting the countryside⁶.

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