

## Week 11 - Precis

Lesson 1 - NFER assessment - 50 minutes

Lesson 2 - Nasty writing - apostrophes to show possession and plural -s  
WALT understand what a precis is

Lesson 3 - Grammar input - cohesion -focus on parenthesis and relative clauses  
WALT create a precis using a given text

Lesson 4 - Nasty writing - commas  
WALT practice key skills of creating a precis

# NFER Test

WALT understand what a precis is

Lesson 2

What is a precis?

What type of writing would this be suitable for?

## WALT understand what a precis is

### Lesson 2

#### Read these three examples of a precis

The ancient Greeks were people who lived from about 800BC to 150 BC. They are famous for developing a way of living that we still use today.

Greece was not a big and powerful empire like ancient Rome. Instead, for most of the time the ancient Greeks lived in small independent city-states and kingdoms.

Early Greek stories told how the universe was created from chaos. Out of this the first gods and goddesses came into being, representing the earth, the sea, the sky, and night and day.

Which ones are useful and informative? Why?



WALT understand what a precis is

Lesson 2

Compare precis with the main part of the text.

The Olympic Games lasted for nearly 1,200 years. They were a place where ancient rival city states could do battle peacefully.

What do you notice?

The word athlete comes from the ancient Greek meaning 'someone who competes for a prize'.

Contests between the fittest men had taken place for centuries before the Olympic Games started. But these were local affairs. The Olympic Games became special because it attracted people from all over the ancient Greek empire.

The Olympic Games may have come about through the ancient Greek idea of truce. You have to remember that, at this time, wars between cities in Greece were common. For a month before the Olympic Games started, all of the Greek cities would stop warring with one another and take part in games held on neutral territory in the countryside, at the sanctuary for Zeus at Olympia (known as the Altis). By attracting Greeks from all over the ancient Greek world, the games also helped to hold the Greek empire together.

Is there any similarities between both texts?

## WALT understand what a precis is

## Lesson 2

You will be unpicking some examples of a precis and the whole extract.

WALT: understand what a precis is

What is similar with the precis and the whole extract?

What is different?


The theatre was invented in ancient Greece. It was a mixture of religious festival, acting, dancing, singing and music.

For most of the time people entertained themselves at home by telling stories around the fire. But in Athens, in about 500 bc, the Greeks also invented the theatre. The word drama comes from Greek words meaning 'to do' or 'to act'. A play is a story acted out, often exaggerating some part of human life.

**The ancient Greeks worshipped their gods in special areas called SANCTUARIES. Inside the sanctuaries were many TEMPLES.**

The ancient Greeks worshipped their gods by dedicating parts of the countryside to them. These sacred areas were called sanctuaries and they contained temples, TREASURIES and many other buildings. In Olympia, as in several other places, the sanctuary contained a sports stadium (see pages 40-45).

The main buildings were the temples (picture 2). They were rectangular and had gently sloping roofs. The Greeks, like the ancient Egyptians, did not know how to support a roof without using many columns. So they turned this limitation into a masterly piece of architecture.



**All cities believed that it was important to train children. This was also a time of war, so learning and war training were mixed together.**

We live in relatively safe times and only small numbers of the military are needed to defend us. But in ancient Greek times this was not so. All citizens had to know how to defend their city, and so military training was part of every school - although it was often in the form of fitness and games.

Here are two examples to show you how different ancient Greek schooling could be between cities and in comparison with our schools today.

But first lets go through an example together..

WALT understand what a precis is

Lesson 2

We will go through one together:

The theatre was invented in ancient Greece. It was a mixture of religious festival, acting, dancing, singing and music.

For most of the time people entertained themselves at home by telling stories around the fire. But in Athens, in about 500BC, the Greeks also invented the theatre. The word drama comes from Greek words meaning 'to do' or 'to act'. A play is a story acted out, often exaggerating some part of human life.

Is there any more?

What do you notice?

Is there any similarities between both texts?



## WALT understand what a precis is

## Lesson 2

Now that we have gone through one together you need to do the exact same process with the examples on the sheet.

Remember to try and answer these questions

WALT: understand what a precis is

What is similar with the precis and the whole extract?

What is different?

The ancient Greeks worshipped their gods in special areas called **SANCTUARIES**. Inside the sanctuaries were many **TEMPLES**.

The ancient Greeks worshipped their gods by dedicating parts of the countryside to them. These sacred areas were called sanctuaries and they contained temples, **TREASURES** and many other buildings. In Olympia, as in several other places, the sanctuary contained a sports stadium (see pages 40–45).

The main buildings were the temples (picture ②). They were rectangular and had gently sloping roofs. The Greeks, like the ancient Egyptians, did not know how to support a roof without using many columns. So they turned this limitation into a masterly piece of architecture.

The theatre was invented in ancient Greece. It was a mixture of religious festival, acting, dancing, singing and music.

For most of the time people entertained themselves at home by telling stories around the fire. But in Athens, in about 500 bc, the Greeks also invented the theatre. The word drama comes from Greek words meaning 'to do' or 'to act'. A play is a story acted out, often exaggerating some part of human life.

All cities believed that it was important to train children. This was also a time of war, so learning and war training were mixed together.

We live in relatively safe times and only small numbers of the military are needed to defend us. But in ancient Greek times this was not so. All citizens had to know how to defend their city, and so military training was part of every school – although it was often in the form of fitness and games.

Here are two examples to show you how different ancient Greek schooling could be between cities and in comparison with our schools today.



WALT understand what a precis is

Lesson 2

Plenary:

What are some common vocabulary from each of the texts:

Vocabulary

Teacher to create a flipchart

WALT create a precis using a given text

Lesson 3

Can you add cohesion to this paragraph?

Find kids myth for the text

Adverbials  
Relative clauses  
parenthesis  
conjunctions  
synonyms  
pronouns

Annotate to explain their choices.

WALT create a precis using a given text

Lesson 3

Today, you will practice skills to be able to write a successful precis.

I am going to give you a piece of writing about the ancient Greeks.

You will have 5 minutes to read it and try and remember it

After the five minutes you need to turn over the text and tell your partner what it was about.

WALT create a precis using a given text

### Lesson 3

What could we do to help us remember the text?



Step 1: Highlight key words

Metacognition

Which words do you highlight?

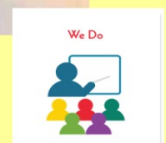
Things you  
may highlight:

- Key dates
- Key topic words

Early Greek stories told how the universe was created from chaos. Out of this the first gods and goddesses came into being, representing the earth, the sea, the sky, and night and day. The Greeks had tales about many other gods as well. These represented human feelings such as love, forces of nature such as earthquakes, or human activities such as farming or fighting. Stories of giants, monsters, spirits and heroes were also told.

Don't highlight the whole text!!

Teacher to discuss why you  
are highlighting those words



(Teacher models)

WALT create a precis using a given text

Lesson 3

What could we do to help us remember the text?

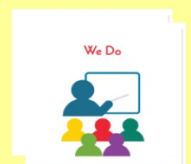


Step 2: Create word bank of highlighted words

Metacognition

Word bank

Teacher to make flipchart.



(Teacher models)

WALT create a precis using a given text

Lesson 4

Metacognition



Step 3: write a precis using key words.

**Remember:** A precis is like a summary so it shouldn't be more than 50 words but can be shorter. It needs to include the key points and vocabulary.



(Teacher models)

WALT create a precis using a given text

Lesson 3

Now, it is your turn to write a precis for the same bit of writing.

Remember:

- To use your key words
- A precis is like a summary so it shouldn't be more than 50 words.



WALT create a precis using a given text

Lesson 3



Plenary

Read your precis to your partner

Does it include the important  
information?

Is it similar or different to yours?

## Lesson 4

WALT practice key skills of creating a  
precis

Today we are going to be writing a precis for  
two texts about Greece.

Who remembers the process  
to write a precis?

Step 1:

Step 2:

Step 3:

WALT practice key skills of creating a precis Lesson 4

What could we do to help us remember the text?



Metacognition

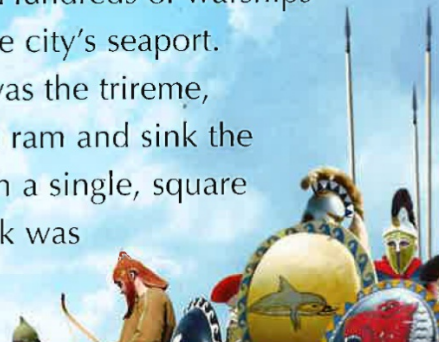
Step 1: Highlight key words

Which words do you highlight?

Things you  
may highlight:

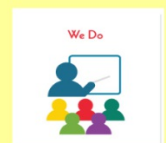
- Key dates
- Key topic words

After 490BCE, the city-state of Athens built a large navy. Soon it ruled the waves. Hundreds of warships could dock at Piraeus, the city's seaport. The fastest type of ship was the trireme, which used oar power to ram and sink the enemy. It had a mast with a single, square sail, but in battle the deck was stripped bare for action.



Don't highlight the whole text!!

Teacher to discuss why you are highlighting those words



(Teacher models)

WALT practice key skills of creating a precis Lesson 4

What could we do to help us remember the text?

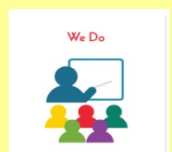


Step 2: Create word bank of highlighted words

Metacognition

Word bank

Teacher to make flipchart.



(Teacher models)

WALT practice key skills of creating a

## Lesson 4

Metacognition



Step 3: write a precis using key words.

**Remember:** A precis is like a summary so it shouldn't be more than 50 words but can be shorter. It needs to include the key points and vocabulary.



(Teacher models)

## WALT practice key skills of creating a precis

### Lesson 4

You are now going to write two precis'

Step 1: Read the text.

Step 2: Highlight key words, not the whole text.

Step 3: Create key word and information map.

Step 4: fold over text (so you don't just copy it, *may need teacher demonstration*)

Step 5: write

WALT practice key skills of creating a precis

Thrilling athletic contests, or games, were held in Delphi, Nemea, Corinth and Olympia that were open to athletes from all over the Greek world. The games began as a kind of religious festival, held in honour of the gods. The Olympic Games are believed to have started in 776 BCE and were celebrated every four years until 393 CE. They were revived as an international competition in 1896 and have become the biggest sporting event of the modern world.

Key vocabulary and information

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WALT practice key skills of creating a precis

During the 400s BCE, Athens experienced a golden age. Its large fleet of warships made it the most powerful of the Greek city-states. Athens benefited from the Attica region's rich silver mines and grew wealthy through trade. The city became an exciting centre of discussion and new ideas, of philosophy, politics, drama, writing, sculpture, architecture and fine craft skills.

Key vocabulary and information

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You Do It Alone



(Independent)

WALT practice key skills of creating a  
precis

Plenary

Read over your precis

Does it make sense?

Does it include everything from your  
mindmap?



