

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

1. Read another King Midas story

- Read *King Midas and the Golden Touch*.
- How would you describe the character of King Midas? What would you have asked for as a reward for helping the satyr?

2. Make a summary of the story

- Use words and pictures on *Story Summary* to show the main events of the story.
- Use your *Story Summary* to help you to tell the story to somebody else.

3. Write using some direct speech

- Imagine the conversation between King Midas and the Satyr at breakfast. How will King Midas discover who the satyr is? How will he decide what to ask for?
- Write the conversation in the *Speech Bubbles*.
- Now try writing this speech as sentences. Use the *Revision Card* to remind you how to punctuate direct speech. Challenge yourself to add some other sentences which say what both characters are doing.

Try these Fun-Time Extras

- Watch some versions of the story of King Midas. Start with this one: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWcJNvSOJ80>
- Write a new story where King Midas chooses a different power. How will it end differently?

King Midas and the Golden Touch

Once upon a time, a long time ago in ancient Greece, there lived a king named Midas. King Midas loved three things more than anything else in the world - his little daughter, his rose garden, and gold. Nothing gave him more pleasure than seeing his little daughter picking roses in the garden, roses she placed in a golden vase to decorate the castle.

One night, while strolling through his rose garden, the King stumbled over a satyr. A satyr was half man, half goat. This satyr looked half-starved and very ill. King Midas brought the satyr into his castle. He made sure the satyr was washed and fed and tucked into bed for a good night's sleep. When the satyr woke up the next morning, his fever was gone. The King and the



satyr had quite a nice chat over breakfast. King Midas was surprised to hear that the satyr belonged to the powerful god Dionysus, the god of wine and truth. That very day, the King personally took the satyr home in his very best chariot.

Dionysus told the King he would grant any one wish the King made to thank him for taking such good care of his friend. The King did not wish anything for his daughter because he had given her everything she wanted and a whole lot more besides. He did not wish anything for his rose garden because everyone knew he grew the finest roses in all the world. That left gold. King Midas wished that everything he touched would turn to gold.

When the King arrived back at his castle, he pulled out a chair to sit down at his table. The minute he touched it, the chair turned to gold. He touched the table. He touched a vase. As soon as he touched them, they turned to gold. King Midas raced through his castle. Everything he touched turned to gold! He was so happy. He shouted to his servants to cook him a feast in celebration!

His servants served him a feast. That's when the trouble started. Everything looked and smelled so good that King Midas did not wait for his daughter to show up for lunch. He reached out and grabbed a fistful of food. The food made quite a clatter when he dropped it back on the table in shock. It had turned to gold in his fist. He touched other food. Whatever he touched turned to gold. He tried leaning over and ripping a piece of meat with his teeth, but that did not help. The meat turned to gold in his mouth. The King's eyes filled with fear. He knew if he could not eat, he would starve. This was terrible. The King did not know what to do.

King Midas wandered sadly out to his rose garden. His little daughter was in the garden, picking roses. When she saw her father, she ran into his arms for a hug and turned to gold. King Midas hung his head and cried. As his tears fell on his precious roses they turned to gold, but the King did not care. He did not care about his roses or his gold or himself. "Dionysus, hear my prayer," the king begged. "Take my wish back! Please, take my wish back and save my daughter!"

One last time, the King's wish was granted.

Adapted from: <https://greece.mrdonn.org/greekgods/kingmidas.html>

Story Summary

Revision Card – Direct Speech

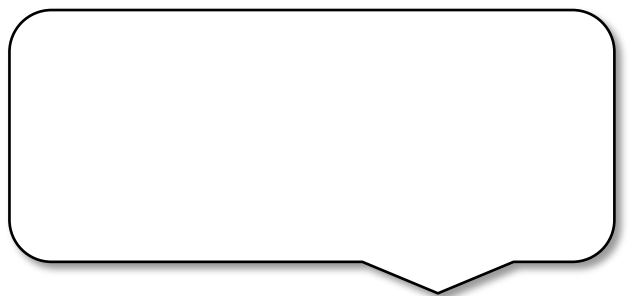
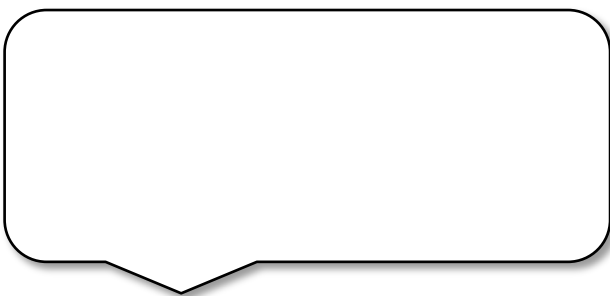
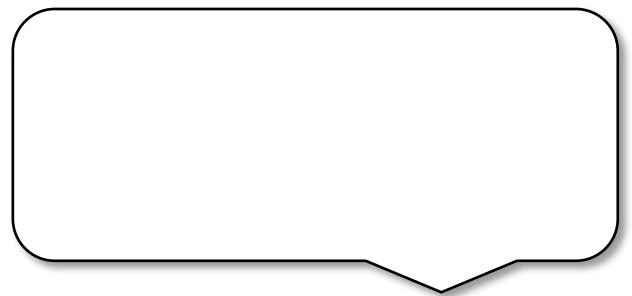
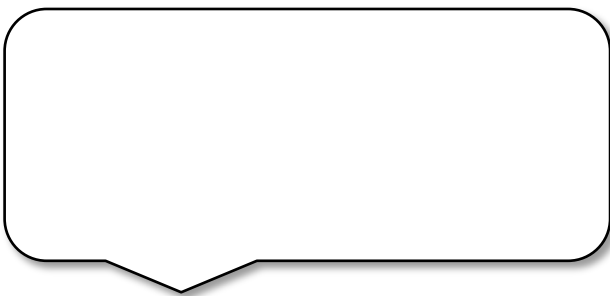
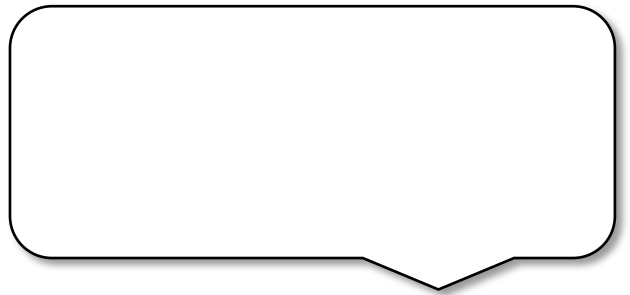
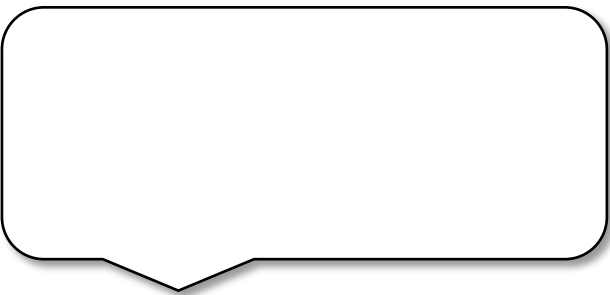
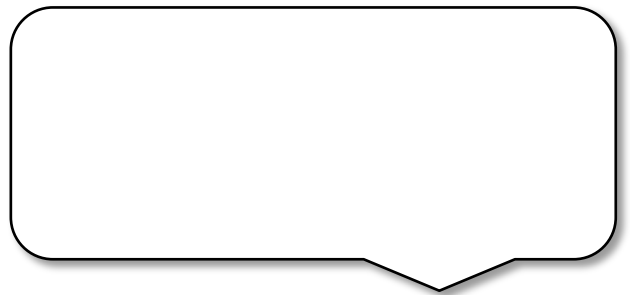
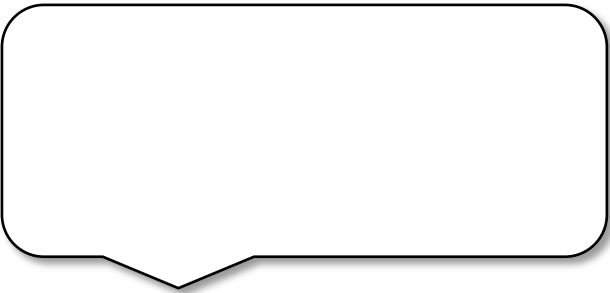
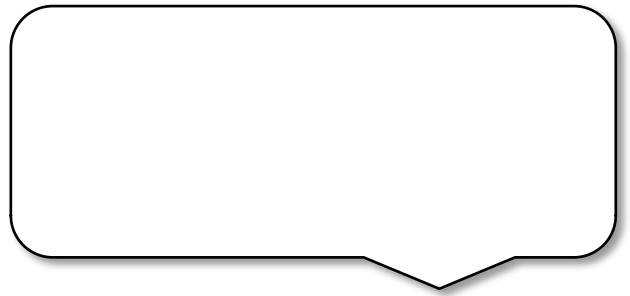
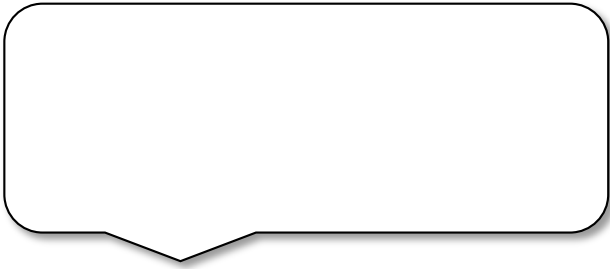
Direct Speech

- Hug the words spoken with speech marks
- Start the speakers' words with a capital letter
- Separate the speech and reporting clause with a comma
- Start a new line to show the speaker has changed

Speech Bubbles

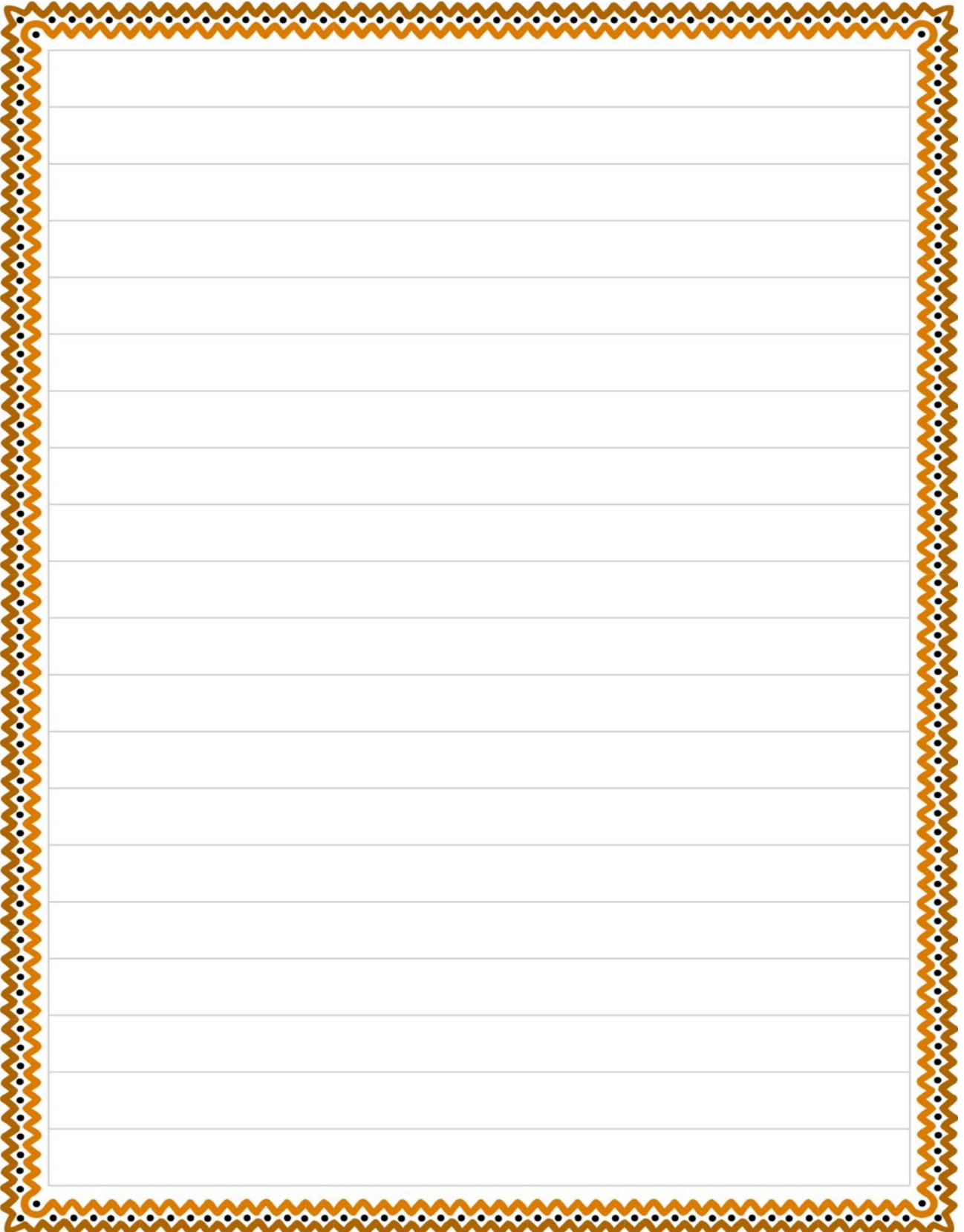
King Midas

Satyr



King Midas and the Satyr

Write the conversation between King Midas and the Satyr here.



A large rectangular writing area with a decorative orange and black zigzag border. The interior is white with horizontal lines for writing.