

Language changes

Read the excerpt from 'Persephone, Queen of the Underworld' below. Highlight any words that you don't come across very often.

HELIOS: He's not a happy chappie, sire.

ZEUS: I'm stuck between a rock and a hard place. And I'd rather endure the wrath of Hades than deal with a cranky Demeter.

HELIOS: I'm going to keep my all-seeing eye on him, all the same.

NARRATOR 1: And so it was that Zeus and Helios were watching from Olympus when-

NARRATOR 2: *(to audience)* You'll see. Persephone was frolicking in a flower meadow.

1. Write a definition for each of the following words:

| Word | Definition |
|-----------|------------|
| suitors | |
| heralding | |
| wrath | |
| endure | |
| sire | |

2. New words appear in dictionaries every year. Can you think of any 'new' words that you wouldn't have seen twenty years ago?

3. Why do you think language continually changes?

4. Bonus—Can you think of words your parents use that are now out of fashion?
