



lingoda

# Robin Hood

SPEAKING

LEVEL  
Advanced

NUMBER  
C1\_1064S\_EN

LANGUAGE  
English





## Goals

- Can read, listen to and understand a challenging text about the character of Robin Hood.
- Can present an extended and well-formulated opinion on morality and legends.



**Friar Tuck, Maid Marion, Little John...**  
most of us have heard about some of the characters in the legend of **Robin Hood**, but how much of the story is true?



## Folk legends

Discuss these questions with your teacher.



1

Do you know the legend of Robin Hood? What do you know about him?



## Folk legends

Discuss these questions with your teacher.



1

Do you know the legend of Robin Hood? What do you know about him?



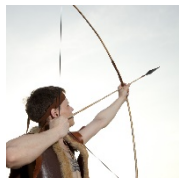
2

Do you know any other famous legends from England, the USA or other English speaking countries?



## Folk legends

Discuss these questions with your teacher.



1

Do you know the legend of Robin Hood? What do you know about him?



2

Do you know any other famous legends from England, the USA or other English speaking countries?



3

Do you have any similar legends from your country?



## Robin Hood

The legend of Robin Hood is familiar to many, thanks to children's stories and Hollywood films alike. However, though the **lauded** outlaw did exist, the details of much of his life are uncertain, having been exaggerated and **dramatised**. Fact and fiction are often mixed when it comes to well-known legends.





## Robin Hood

Robin Hood is one of the most famous figures in English **folklore**; an outlaw who stole from the rich and gave to the poor. These are the details on which most agree. Robin Hood is also always associated with the north of England; though his place of birth is a **point of contention**, two of the most likely theories are that he was born in either South or West Yorkshire. Many have agreed that his **haunts** were Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire and Robin Hood's Bay in North Yorkshire.







## Robin Hood

Film adaptations of Robin Hood have typically dressed the character in Lincoln green with a feather in his cap. He's usually surrounded by his band of merry men, the most famous of whom is Little John. The beautiful Maid Marion and the **portly** Friar Tuck are also popular characters.

A **sworn enemy** of the Sheriff of Nottingham but loyal to the king, Robin Hood would **kidnap** unsuspecting travellers in Sherwood Forest and later demand payment. Those who were honest about their wealth were set free, however those who lied were robbed of all of their valuables. These riches were then distributed among the poor.





## Do you know these words from the text?





## Retell the story

Use the words on the previous page to briefly retell what you remember of what you read to your teacher.





## What do you think?

Why do you think different parts of England want to claim Robin Hood? What benefits can come from an attachment to fame and legend?





## Points of contention

Think about the following questions in relation to the text.



1

Several parts of the story of Robin Hood are described as *points of contention*. Why might this be?

2

Are there any legends from your country which people cannot agree upon?

3

Why do you think there are so many different versions of the story?





## Discuss

**Read the quote below and discuss in relation to the text you have read so far. Do you agree with this assessment of Robin Hood's character? Were his actions morally right, morally wrong or morally ambiguous? Explain your answer in detail.**

// Robin Hood deserved his status as an outlaw. He was no more than a common thief and the fact that his life story is still celebrated today is incomprehensible. It's a shame he was never caught and properly punished – his actions of stealing from the hard-working rich and giving to the poor only serves to encourage young criminals. //





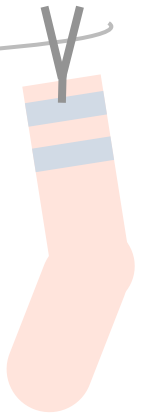
## Lawyer for a day

Imagine you are a lawyer. You are working on Robin Hood's case and it is going to trial today. Choose whether you will prosecute or defend him for his crimes and practise making your opening speech. Your teacher will act as the jury and decide whether or not to grant you the case based on your arguments. Use some of the points you made in the last activity to help you.

- Make a convincing case! Be as persuasive as possible. Don't shy away from emotive language!
- Remember to outline the crimes for which Mr Hood is being tried.



the defendant  
my client  
on trial  
to be accused of  
(im)moral  
alleged  
justice  
the defence rests  
the prosecution  
rests





## Get ready to listen



The next few slides will focus on training your listening comprehension





## Listening activity

As you listen to your teacher, fill in the missing gaps. Watch out for false friends! There are some words at the side which don't appear in the text at all. Then move to the next listening activity.

1. Much of the story's \_\_\_\_\_ is conjecture, with Maid Marian and Friar Tuck certainly having been added to stories at later dates. What is almost certain to be \_\_\_\_\_ is that Robin Hood was an outlaw, \_\_\_\_\_ to live outside of the law by the ruler of the land.
2. Before his \_\_\_\_\_ he is said to have shot an \_\_\_\_\_ from a window of the priory and asked Little John to \_\_\_\_\_ him where it landed, which he duly did.

death

false

banished

colour

arrow

plot

true

bury

find

destined



## Listening activity

Separate the different elements of the Robin Hood legend into two different lists: generally agreed upon and disputed – we don't know if it happened.

	Robin Hood's grave in the priory	friendship with Little John	
Robin Hood was old and ill when he died	Friar Tuck	Robin Hood an outlaw	Robin Hood's death by betrayal & murder
	Robin Hood's skill at archery	Maid Marion	
	generally agreed upon	disputed – we don't know if it happened	
	_____	_____	
	_____	_____	
	_____	_____	



## Finding the facts

Which of the things is described as being beyond doubt in the listening?

his friends

his skills

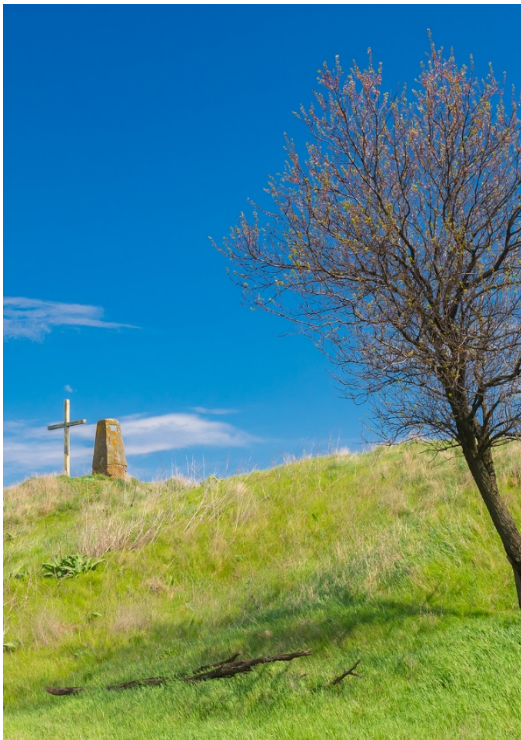
places

his death



## The death of Robin Hood

What do you think about the story of Robin Hood's death? Is it a fitting end? How do characters in legends usually die?



betrayal

murder

burial

friendship



## Hero or villain?

**Do you think Robin Hood was ultimately a hero or a villain? Or both? Explain your answer.**



## About you

If you could be a legend, hero or villain from any story, which would you be and why?





## Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





## Answer key

**p. 17:**  
1. colour, 2. true, 3. banished, 4. death, 5. arrow, 6. bury

**p. 18:**  
Generally agreed upon: Robin Hood an outlaw, friendship with Little John, Robin Hood's skill at archery, Robin Hood was old and ill when he died, Robin Hood's death by betrayal & murder  
Disputed – we don't know if it happened: Maid Marion, Friar Tuck, Robin Hood's grave in the priory



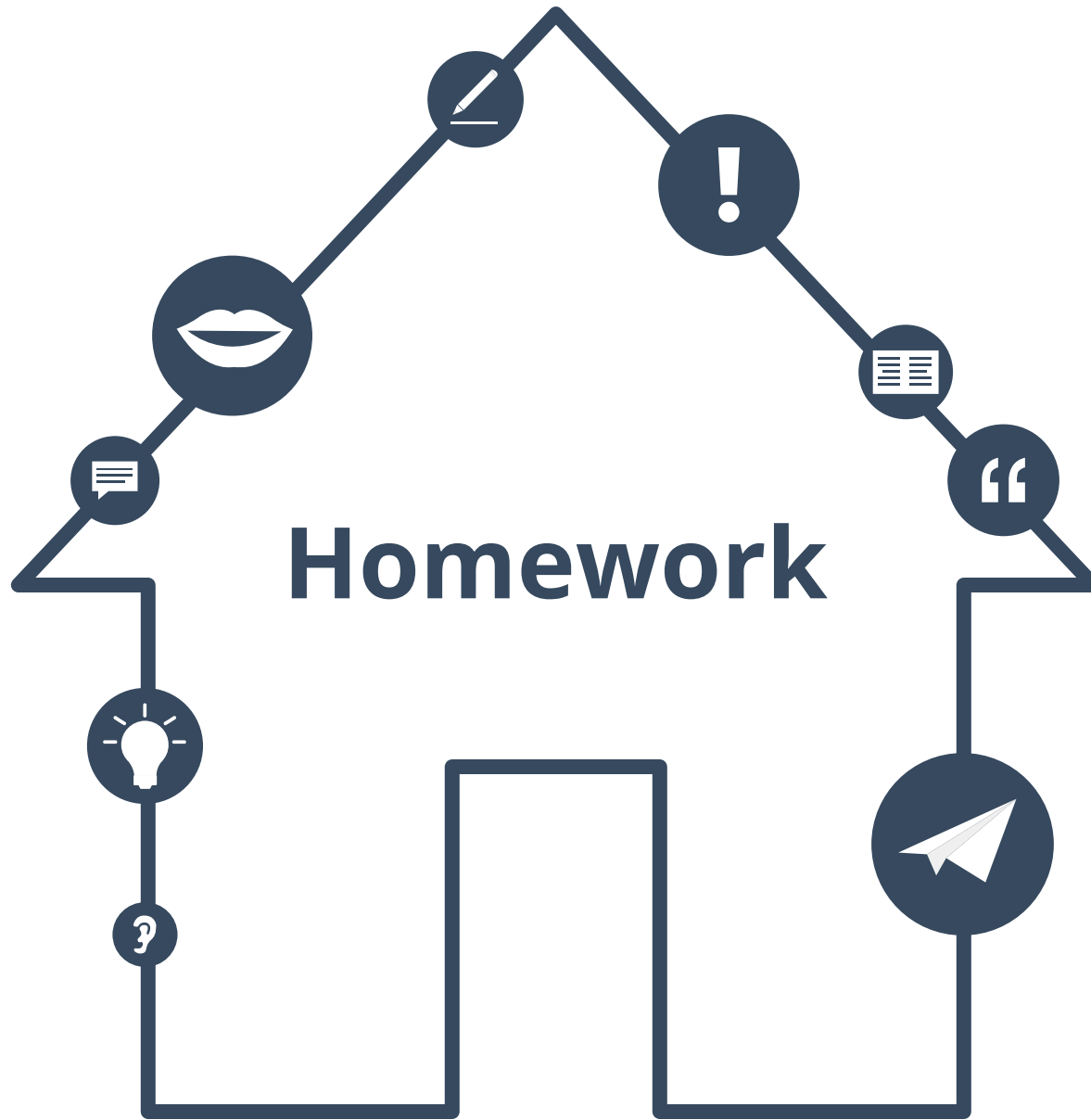


## Transcription

Much of the story's colour is **conjecture**, with Maid Marian and Friar Tuck certainly having been added to stories at later dates. What is almost certain to be true is that Robin Hood was an **outlaw**, banished to live outside of the law by the ruler of the land. His friendship with Little John is also beyond reasonable doubt. He was furthermore a skilled archer, and one popular story places Robin Hood and Little John in Whitby, where they shot arrows over a mile's distance.

The details of Robin Hood's death tend to be similar in all accounts. Old and ill, Robin went to a **priory** in West Yorkshire to be treated by a relative. He was betrayed and murdered. Before his death he is said to have shot an arrow from a window of the priory and asked Little John to bury him where it landed, which he duly did. The grave of Robin Hood is alleged to be in the priory, though historians dispute this theory.

Whatever the truth about Robin Hood, he remains a popular character to this day, and numerous legends are told in many different cultures about men similar to Robin.





## Fill in the gaps with the correct word

1. Robin Hood was \_\_\_\_\_ from society and went to live in Sherwood Forest.
2. Robin's story has been \_\_\_\_\_ and exaggerated in film and in oral histories.
3. Robin's \_\_\_\_\_ are said to include Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire.
4. Robin was the \_\_\_\_\_ enemy of the Sheriff of Nottingham.
5. Robin and Little John were accomplished \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Robin is said to have been killed at a \_\_\_\_\_.

**priory**

**sworn**

**dramatized**

**banished**

**haunts**

**archers**



## New words

**Which words were new for you in this lesson? Do you know how to use them in a sentence?**

A graphic of a notepad with a spiral binding on the left. A white sticky note with a blue tab is attached to the top right, containing the text "New words". Below the sticky note, the word "outlaw" is written on a horizontal line. There are several other blank horizontal lines on the notepad for writing.



## Homework answer key

1. banished, 2. dramatized, 3. haunts, 4. sworn, 5. archers, 6. priory



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