

AF 2 Literal

1. Who wrote this poem and when? Percy Bysshe Shelley in 1817
2. Where is it set? Egypt

AF 3 Infer

3. What part of the statue is missing? The trunk or the torso
4. On a scale of 1 -10, how big do you think the statue is? Which words tell you?
9-10. The word 'colossal' tells me.
5. What might the statue's size tell you about how rich, powerful and well-known the ruler was?
We can assume that the ruler was wealthy and very powerful, given that the statue is so large. Often, statues are built to honour famous people. This suggests that the ruler was well-known throughout his Kingdom.
6. The poet uses a French word in line 4 – what is it? What does it mean?
Visage means 'face'.
7. Find the word 'pedestal'. What do you think it means? What is a pedestal?
A pedestal is a support at the base of a statue. It helps to keep the statue up.
8. Why do you think Ozymandias' statue was on a pedestal?
It may have been to raise the statue even higher to make it more imposing. The pedestal has an inscription carved onto it which speaks of the might of Ozymandias – another reason why the statue may have been on a pedestal.
9. There is an old English word written on the pedestal. What is it? What does it mean?
'ye' it means 'your'.
10. Does the poet view Egypt as an old or a modern land – which word tells you?
Old. In the first line, the word 'antique' is used.
11. Could the traveller see all of Ozymandias' head? Why?
The traveller could not. We are told that the face is both half sunk and shattered.
12. Underline the word carved on the pedestal.

Feared	Powerful	Kind
Successful	Weak	Ruthless

13. What do they tell you about what type of ruler Ozymandias was?
Ozymandias was an arrogant, ruthless ruler who believed he was more powerful than those around him.

14. Re-read lines 4 and 5. How did the sculptor carve Ozymandias's face? With what expression? With a frown and a sneer of command.

15. What does this suggest about Ozymandias's character?

Ozymandias was a man who took no prisoners! He ruled with strength and thought a lot of himself.

AF 5 Purpose & Viewpoint.

16. Think the theme of this poem. Do you think the poet is trying to tell us that (tick one):

- Nobody can stop the sands of time from moving forward
- Even the most famous people will one day be forgotten **(tick)**
- We should be careful what we do today if we want people to think well of us tomorrow?

Give evidence for your answer supported by quotes from the text:

This once mighty ruler's statue is now decaying in the middle of the desert, where the 'boundless, bare' sand stretches far and wide around it. The head of the statue, once so imposing now lies half sunk and shattered in the sand. This implies that even though Ozymandias was once 'King of Kings', he now lies forgotten in the sand.