Writing fantasy fiction

1. Work in groups of four. Each member of the group should focus on one of these sections of the writing tips for fantasy in the Oxford English Thesaurus for Schools:
   - Characters
   - Creatures
   - Setting
   - Useful words and phrases

2. Write all the words from your section on a small piece of paper. Fold each piece of paper in half and then place it in a pile. Mix the words up.

3. Next, each player should choose five words from each pile.

4. If you don’t like or understand your words, you can trade words with another member of your group or the pile that you got the word from. You should each have twenty words to give you some great ideas for your fantasy fiction.

5. Now each of you is ready to write the first paragraph of your fantasy story. You could:
   - set the scene
   - begin the narrative
   - introduce a character

   Allow five minutes for this activity.

6. Next, swap your story, words, and ideas with the person on your left and allow five minutes for you all to write the next paragraph of the story you have just been given.

7. When you have all written a paragraph for each set of words and ideas, read them out loud to each other.

How did you do?

Give yourself one mark every time you use a word from your selection.

5 words = apprentice

10 words = druid

15 words = alchemist

20 words = wizard