High School & Sixth Form



A journey to the Underworld



As our Classical Civilisation class study the Aeneid, the half-way point is marked by the iconic journey taken by the titular character to the realm of Pluto and Proserpina. This is one of the most exciting parts of the work, crammed full of dark, gloomy abodes, horrible dungeons, and terrifying mythological monsters. This is so much the case that it is fair to say the story, and the work it inspired, Dante's Inferno, has shaped the West's vision of hell more than any other.

With so many great scenes – the River Styx, the cave of Cerberus, and the prison of Tartarus to name but a few – we thought it was best to immortalise these in art (something people have been doing for millenia). And so, we divided up the scenes between us and created a 'show-and-tell' scene each. Hopefully this will make the students focus each and every detail, and consider the impression they made, all with an eye to producing some outstanding knowledge and analysis when the real examination come. In the meantime, it's on to Ausonia and war with the Latins...