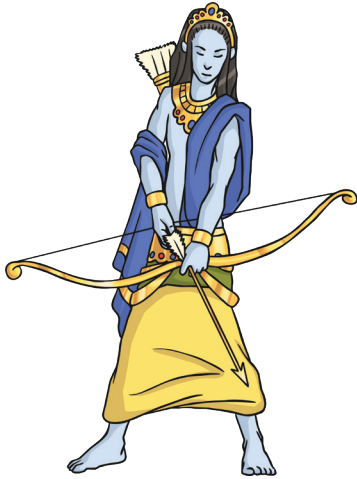


The Story of Rama and Sita

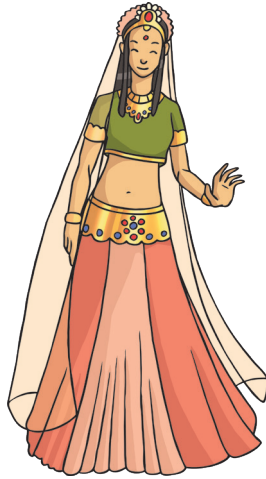
Play Script

Cast:



Rama

The King's Son
and rightful heir
to the throne



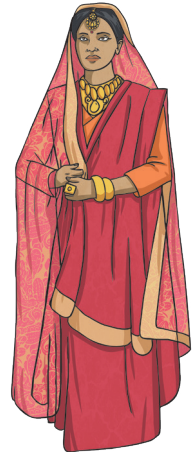
Sita

Rama's Wife



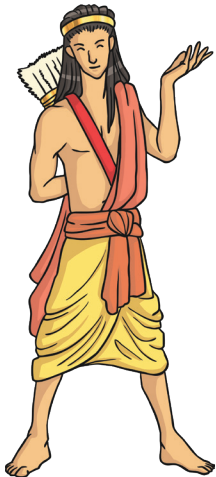
King

An old,
tired man



Rama's stepmother

The king's wife who
wants her own son
to be the next king



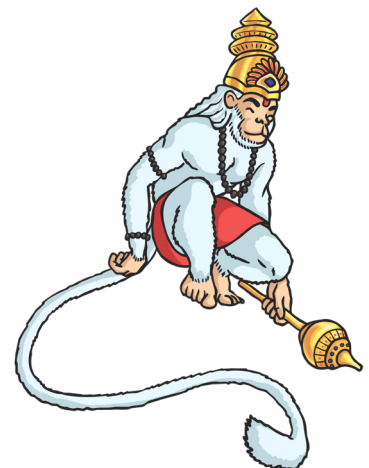
Lakshmana

Rama's brother



Ravana

The demon-king
with ten heads



Hanuman

The monkey king

Cast continued:

Fawn	<u>Monkey Army</u>
Narrator 1	Monkey 1
Narrator 2	Monkey 2
Narrator 3	Monkey 3
Narrator 4	Monkey 4
	Monkey 5



Prop Ideas:

Character Masks

Throne

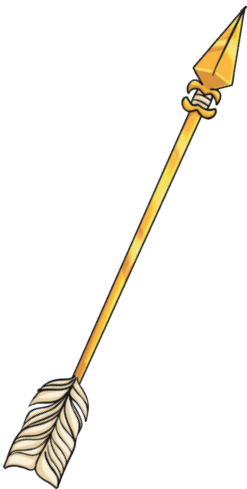
Cloak

Gold Bracelets

Walking Stick

Bow and Arrow

Diva Lamps (Health and Safety
Note-candles should not be used)



Audio Ideas:

Bird Song

Forest Animal Noises

Scene 1

Lights up. The palace gardens. Rama and Sita enter the stage. They walk around, talking and laughing as the narrator speaks. Birds can be heard in the background.

Narrator 1:	Once upon a time, there was a great warrior, Prince Rama, who had a beautiful wife named Sita.
	Rama and Sita stop walking and stand in the middle of the stage.
Sita:	(looking up to the sky) What a beautiful day.
Rama:	(looking at Sita) Nothing compares to your beauty.
Sita:	(smiling) Come, let's continue.
	Rama and Sita continue to walk around the stage, talking and laughing as the narrator continues.
Narrator 1:	Rama was the eldest son of the king. He was a good and popular man. He would become king one day, however, his stepmother wanted her son to be the next king.
	Rama's stepmother enters the stage.
Rama's stepmother:	(grumpy) What are you both so happy about?
Rama:	We are enjoying this beautiful morning. Stepmother, how are you today?
Rama's stepmother:	Why do you care Rama? (Under her breath as she leaves the stage) I won't be happy until that boy is gone.
	Rama and Sita ignore her, continue walking around the garden, talking happily, leaving the stage at the opposite side. Lights down.

Scene 2

Lights Up. Inside the palace. The king is sitting on his throne with his wife standing beside him.

Rama's stepmother:	Your son has just been very rude to me ...again. He said he would banish me to the forest once he is king.
King:	Rama said that? No, he couldn't have done.
Rama's stepmother:	Are you saying that you don't believe your dear wife?

King: I'm sorry my love, I'm getting too old and tired for this. For weeks you have told me about how mean he has become. Perhaps he won't make a good king after all?

Rama's stepmother: I fear the same.

Rama and Sita enter.

Rama: **(cheerful and bowing)** Good morning father!

Sita: **(curtseying)** Good morning your majesty.

King: Rama, why have you become so cruel and boastful? This is not how a future king should behave!

Rama: What? I don't understand.

King: I thought you would make a kind, understanding king but I fear you will not. I think there is somebody better to continue this important role.

Rama: But....

Rama's stepmother: **(interrupting Rama)** Not everyone is cut out to be king, Rama.

Rama: It's you! You have been putting ideas into my father's head. You horrible woman!

King: **(angrily)** ENOUGH! I've heard enough. Rama, that is no way to speak to my wife. Go to the forest and stay there for 14 years. By then, I will be gone and a new king will rule. Leave now! **(storms off the stage)**

Rama falls down to his knees with his head in his hands. Sita tries to comfort him. Having seen this, Rama's stepmother laughs and leaves the stage.

Lights down

Scene 3

Lights up. Rama and Sita are walking carefully through the forest, looking around as they go. Rama's brother, Lakshmana, is leading the way. Forest noises can be heard in the background.

Rama: Brother, it is kind of you to travel with us.

Lakshmana: Father has made a terrible mistake. I know this forest well and I can help you build a home.

Sita: **(putting her hand on his shoulder)** Thank you, Lakshmana.

Lakshmana: The forest is a dangerous place so make sure you watch your step.

Rama, Sita and Lakshmana exit the stage and lights down.

Scene 4

Lights up. Ravana's palace on the island of Lanka. Ravana is sitting on his throne.

Narrator 2: On the island of Lanka, there was a grand palace. In the palace lived an evil, ten-headed demon-king called Ravana.

Ravana: **(standing up from his throne)** I must find Sita and see her beauty for myself. She should be my wife as I am most powerful. As people fear me so much, I can't appear to her as my true self. I need a plan.

Narrator 2: Ravana thought some more.

Ravana: **(rubbing his hands together/cunning voice)** Yes, that's it! I'll disguise myself and capture her. She'll be mine forever!

Ravana exits the stage and lights down.

Scene 5

Lights up. Sita and Rama are walking in the forest. A golden fawn appears in their path.

Sita: **(whispering and pointing)** Rama, look, there's a fawn over there.

Rama: **(whispering)** This forest is filled with so much life.

The fawn runs away, exiting the stage.

Sita: Rama, please bring it back to me. I must take another look at its beauty.

Rama: Anything for my wife.

Rama exits the stage and Sita happily walks around the forest clearing, taking in her surroundings. Ravana enters the stage, limping and dressed in disguise as an old man.

Ravana: Excuse me my dear, I'm a tired, old man who has lost his way. Can you help me?

Sita: Yes, of course.

Sita walks towards him, Ravana removes his cloak, using it to capture Sita. She screams and struggles as Ravana takes her away. She throws down one of her bracelets. Both exit the stage.

Rama runs onto the stage, huffing and puffing.

Rama: Sita, where are you? Sita? The fawn disappeared into the trees. **(Rama looks down and notices her bracelet)** There was a struggle here. **(Rama looks at the ground in desperation)** Sita, where are you? Wait, what's that I see sparkling in the distance?

Rama exits the stage and lights down.

Scene 6

Lights up. Rama and Lakshmana are in the forest, following a trail of Sita's jewellery.

Lakshmana: Here's another piece Rama. She must have left a trail.

Rama: Yes, that's Sita's bracelet.

Hanuman enters.

Hanuman: Rama, are you alright? You look very worried.

Rama: Hanuman, I am. Something is wrong. Sita has been taken from me.

Hanuman: Do not worry, I will help you.

Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman exit the stage.

Narrator 3: Hanuman flew off in search of Sita. He saw her trail of jewellery and followed it, hoping it would lead to the princess. The trail led him to Ravana's palace on the island of Lanka, across the sea. Hanuman found Sita and told her that she would be saved.

Rama and Lakshmana back on stage, searching for Sita.

Rama/
Lakshmana: Sita! Sita! Where are you?

Hanuman enters.

Rama: Hanuman, do you have news?

Hanuman: Yes, Sita has been taken by Ravana and is being held at his palace on the island of Lanka, across the wild sea.

Rama: Is she alright?

Hanuman: She is well, but we must hurry. I said we would go back for her. Come on, follow me.

Rama, Hanuman and Lakshmana exit the stage and lights down.

Scene 7

Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman are standing at the water's edge. Ravana's palace is at the other side.

Rama: **(frustrated)** I can't make it across there. It's too far.

Lakshmana: I would drown brother.

Hanuman: **(whistles)**

Monkeys arrive, creating a bridge over the water for Rama and Lakshmana.

Hanuman: Now you can cross safely. Go, there isn't a second to lose. We are all with you.

Lakshmana: Rama, we must hurry.

Rama: Thank you Hanuman, how will I ever repay you?

Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman start to make their way over the bridge. They exit the stage once they reach the other side.

Narrator 3: Ravana heard the intruders and a battle began. Rama and his army fought against the demon for days until Rama fired an arrow which killed Ravana. At last, Rama and Sita were together again.

Lights down

Scene 8

Lights up. Rama and Sita enter the stage. They are standing at the edge of the forest and can see their home land in the distance. The path has been lit.

Sita: 14 years have passed, now we shall return.

Rama: There are more lights along this path than there are in the sky.

Rama and Sita walk along the path then exit the stage.

Narrator 4: The people of their homeland had also realised that the 14 years had passed. It was a dark night, so they lit diva lamps to show Rama and Sita the way back home. On their return, there were huge celebrations and Rama and Sita were crowned the rightful king and queen. Hindus celebrate Diwali every year, remembering this story of love and how good overcame evil.

The End

Questions

Answer in full sentences

1. How would you describe the relationship between Rama and his brother? Give a reason for your answer.

2. Where does Ravana live?

3. Why did Ravana disguise himself when going to find Sita?

4. What might have happened if Sita hadn't left the trail of jewellery?

5. List three features of a play script.

Answers

1. How would you describe the relationship between Rama and his brother? Give a reason for your answer.

The brothers have a good relationship. E.g. Lakshmana helps Rama and Sita build a new home in the forest/Lakshmana helps to find Sita when she is captured by Ravana. Accept similar answers where reasoning is given.

2. Where does Ravana live?

Ravana lives in a palace on the island of Lanka.

3. Why did Ravana disguise himself when going to find Sita?

Ravana wore a disguise to hide his true identity, giving him the opportunity to trick and capture her.

4. What might have happened if Sita hadn't left the trail of jewellery?

Own answers.

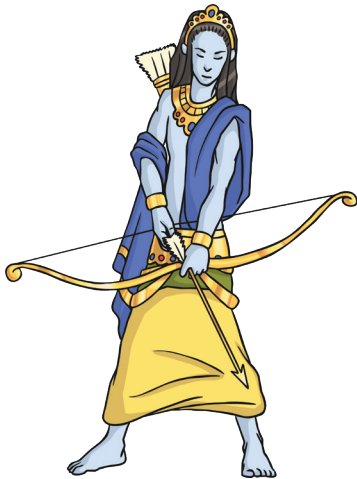
5. List three features of a play script.

Accept three of the following: cast list, costume ideas, scenes, scene setting, stage directions, no speech marks, character name with a colon on the left, narrator.

The Story of Rama and Sita

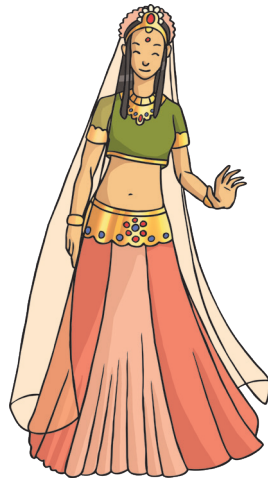
Play Script

Cast:



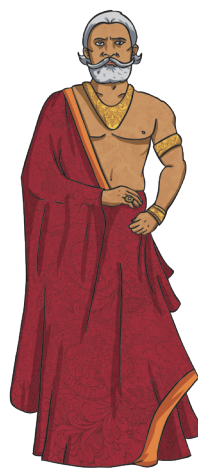
Rama

The King's Son
and rightful heir
to the throne



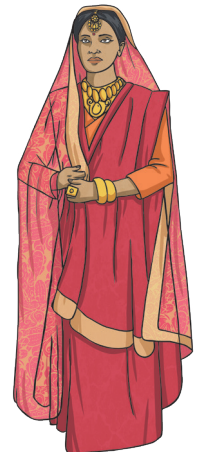
Sita

Rama's Wife



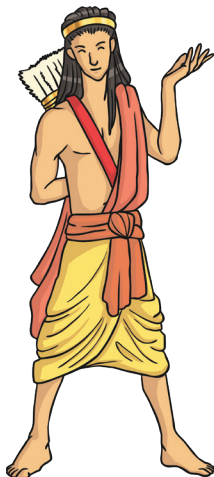
King

An old,
tired man



Rama's stepmother

The king's wife who
wants her own son
to be the next king



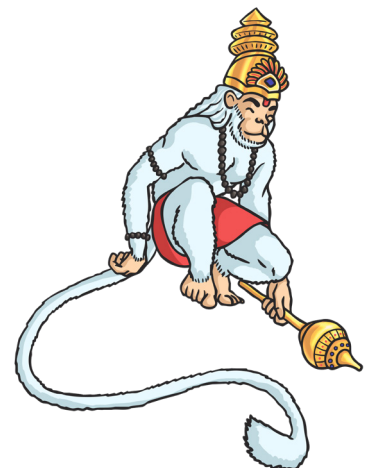
Lakshmana

Rama's brother



Ravana

The demon-king
with ten heads



Hanuman

The monkey king

Cast continued:

Fawn	<u>Monkey Army</u>
Narrator 1	Monkey 1
Narrator 2	Monkey 2
Narrator 3	Monkey 3
Narrator 4	Monkey 4
	Monkey 5



Prop Ideas:

Character Masks

Throne

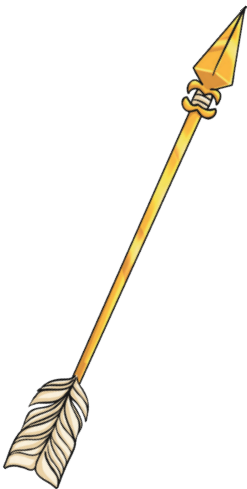
Cloak

Gold Bracelets

Walking Stick

Bow and Arrow

Diva Lamps (Health and Safety
Note-candles should not be used)



Audio Ideas:

Bird Song

Forest Animal Noises

Scene 1

Lights up. The palace gardens. Rama and Sita enter the stage. They walk around, talking and laughing as the narrator speaks. Birds can be heard in the background.

Narrator 1: | Once upon a time, there was a great warrior, Prince Rama, who had a beautiful wife named Sita.

Rama and Sita stop walking and stand in the middle of the stage.

Sita: | **(looking up to the sky)** What a beautiful day.

Rama: | **(looking at Sita)** Nothing compares to your beauty.

Sita: | **(smiling)** Come, let's continue.

Rama and Sita continue to walk around the stage, talking and laughing as the narrator continues.

Narrator 1: | Rama was the eldest son of the king. He was a good man and popular with the people of the land. He would become king one day, however, his stepmother wanted her son to inherit the throne instead.

Rama's stepmother enters the stage.

Rama's stepmother: | **(grumpy)** What are you both so happy about?

Rama: | We are enjoying this beautiful morning. Stepmother, how are you today?

Rama's stepmother: | Why do you care Rama?
(Under her breath as she leaves the stage) I won't be happy until that boy is gone.

Rama: | I hope I didn't upset her!

Rama and Sita leave the stage and lights down.

Scene 2

Lights Up. Inside the palace. The king is sitting on his throne with his wife standing beside him.

Rama's stepmother: | My dear, I've just come from the gardens.

King: | Did you enjoy your walk?

Rama's stepmother: | Unfortunately not as your son was very rude to me ...again. He gloated about how he will become king one day and threatened to have me banished to the forest.

King: | Rama said that? No, he couldn't have done.

Rama's stepmother: | Are you saying that you don't believe your beloved wife?

King: | I'm sorry my dear, I'm getting too old and tired for this. What has got into that boy? For weeks you have told me about how boastful and mean he has become. Perhaps he won't make a good king after all?

Rama's stepmother: | I fear the same.

Rama and Sita enter.

Rama: | **(cheerful and bowing)** Good morning father!

Sita: | **(curtseying)** Good morning your majesty.

King: | Rama, I must ask why you have become so boastful lately? You gloat about how you will become king one day. This is not how a future king should behave!

Rama: | What? I don't understand.

King: | I thought you would make a kind, understanding king but I fear you will not. I think there is somebody better to continue this important role.

Rama: | But...

Rama's stepmother: | **(interrupting Rama)** Not everyone is cut out to be king, Rama.

Rama: | It's you! You have been putting ideas into my father's head. You horrible woman!

King: **(angrily)** ENOUGH! I've heard enough. Rama, that is no way to speak to my wife. I banish you to the forest for 14 years. By then I will be gone and a new king will rule. Leave immediately! **(storms off the stage)**

Rama falls down to his knees with his head in his hands. Sita tries to comfort him. Having seen this, Rama's stepmother laughs and leaves the stage.

Lights down

Scene 3

Lights up. Rama and Sita are walking cautiously through the forest, looking around as they go. Rama's brother, Lakshmana, is leading the way. Forest noises can be heard in the background.

Rama: Brother, it is kind of you to travel with us.

Lakshmana: Father has made a terrible mistake. His thoughts have been poisoned by that woman. I know this forest well and I can help you build a home.

Sita: **(putting her hand on his shoulder)** We are forever grateful for your kindness, Lakshmana.

Lakshmana: The forest is a wild and dangerous place, watch your step.

Rama, Sita and Lakshmana exit the stage and lights down.

Scene 4

Lights up. Ravana's palace on the island of Lanka. Ravana is sitting on his throne.

Narrator 2: On the island of Lanka, there was a grand palace. In the palace lived a ten-headed demon-king called Ravana. Ravana was feared throughout the land.

Ravana: **(standing up from his throne)** I must find Sita and see her beauty for myself. She should be my wife as I am most powerful. As people fear me so much, and rightfully so, I can't appear to her as my true self. I need a plan.

Narrator 2: Ravana thought some more.

Ravana: **(rubbing his hands together/cunning voice)** Yes, that's it! I'll disguise myself and capture her. She'll be mine forever!

Ravana exits the stage and lights down.

Scene 5

Lights up. Sita and Rama are walking in the forest. A golden fawn appears in their path.

Sita: **(whispering and pointing)** Rama, look there's a fawn over there, let's not scare it.

Rama: **(whispering)** What a beautiful creature. This forest is filled with so much life.

The fawn runs away, exiting the stage.

Sita: Rama, please bring it back to me. I must take another look at its beauty.

Rama: Anything for my wife.

Rama exits the stage and Sita happily walks around the forest clearing, taking in her surroundings. Ravana enters the stage, limping and dressed in disguise as an old man.

Ravana: Excuse me my dear, I'm a tired, old man who has lost his way. Can you help me?

Sita: Yes, of course. Come and sit with me a while then I'll help you find your way.

Sita walks towards him, Ravana removes his cloak, using it to capture Sita. She screams and struggles as Ravana takes her away. She throws down one of her bracelets. Both exit the stage.

Rama runs onto the stage, huffing and puffing.

Rama: Sita, where are you? Sita? The fawn disappeared into the trees. **(Rama looks down and notices her bracelet)** There was a struggle here. **(Rama looks at the ground in desperation)** Sita, where are you? Wait, what's that I see sparkling in the distance?

Rama exits the stage and lights down.

Scene 6

Lights up. Rama and Lakshmana are in the forest, following a trail of Sita's jewellery.

Rama: Thank you for helping me with my search brother.

Lakshmana: Here's another piece Rama. She must have left a trail.

Rama: Yes, that's definitely Sita's bracelet. Keep looking.

Hanuman enters.

Hanuman: Rama, are you alright? You look very worried.

Rama: Hanuman, I am. Something is wrong. Sita has been taken from me.

Hanuman: Do not worry, I will help you.

Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman exit the stage.

Narrator 3: Hanuman flew off in search of Sita. He saw her trail of jewellery and followed it, hoping it would lead to the princess. The trail led him to Ravana's palace on the island of Lanka, across the stormy sea. Hanuman found Sita and reassured her that she would be saved.

Rama and Lakshmana back on stage, searching for Sita.

Rama/
Lakshmana: Sita! Sita! Where are you?

Hanuman enters

Rama: Hanuman, do you have news?

Hanuman: Yes, Sita has been captured by Ravana and is being held at his palace on the island of Lanka, across the wild sea.

Rama: Is she alright? Please tell me no harm has come to her.

Hanuman: She is well but we must hurry. I reassured her that we would return. Come on, follow me.

Rama, Hanuman and Lakshmana exit the stage and lights down.

Scene 7

Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman are standing at the water's edge. Ravana's palace is at the other side.

Rama: **(frustrated)** I can't make it across there. It's too far.

Lakshmana: I would go ahead, but the water is too deep and the tide is too strong. I would drown brother.

Hanuman: **(whistles)**

Monkeys arrive, creating a bridge over the water for Rama and Lakshmana.

Hanuman: Now you can cross safely. Go, there isn't a second to lose. We are all with you.

Lakshmana: Rama, we must hurry.

Rama: Thank you Hanuman, how will I ever repay you?

Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman start to make their way over the bridge. They exit the stage once they reach the other side.

Narrator 3: Ravana heard the intruders and a fierce battle began. Rama and his army fought against the demon for days until Rama fired an arrow which killed Ravana. At last, Rama and Sita were reunited. Good had overcome evil.

Lights down

Scene 8

Lights up. Rama and Sita enter the stage. They are standing at the edge of the forest and can see their home land in the distance. The path has been lit.

Sita: 14 years have passed, now let us return to our rightful home.

Rama: There are more lights along this path than there are in the sky.

Rama and Sita walk along the path then exit the stage.

Narrator 4: The people of their homeland had also realised that the 14 years had passed. It was a dark night, so they lit diva lamps to show Rama and Sita the way back home. On their return, there were huge celebrations and Rama and Sita were crowned the rightful king and queen. Hindus celebrate Diwali every year, remembering this story of love and how good triumphed over evil.

The End

Questions

Answer in full sentences

1. What does Lakshmana mean when he says, 'His thoughts have been poisoned by that woman'?
2. How would you describe the relationship between Rama and his brother? Give reasons for your answer.
3. Where does Ravana live?
4. Why did Ravana disguise himself when going to find Sita?
5. What might have happened if Sita hadn't left the trail of jewellery?
6. List five features of a play script.
7. Write two adjectives to describe Hanuman, giving reasons for your choices.

Answers

1. What does Lakshmana mean when he says, 'His thoughts have been poisoned by that woman'?

Lakshmana is expressing how the king has changed his opinion of Rama, having believed the lies told by his wife. Accept similar answers.

2. How would you describe the relationship between Rama and his brother? Give reasons for your answer.

The brothers have a good relationship. E.g. Lakshmana helps Rama and Sita build a new home in the forest and also helps to find Sita when she is captured by Ravana. Accept similar answers where reasoning is given.

3. Where does Ravana live?

Ravana lives in a palace on the island of Lanka.

4. Why did Ravana disguise himself when going to find Sita?

Ravana wore a disguise to hide his true identity, enabling him to trick and capture her.

5. What might have happened if Sita hadn't left the trail of jewellery?

Own answers.

6. List five features of a play script.

Any five of the following: cast list, costume ideas, scenes, scene setting, stage directions, no speech marks, character name with a colon on the left, narrator.

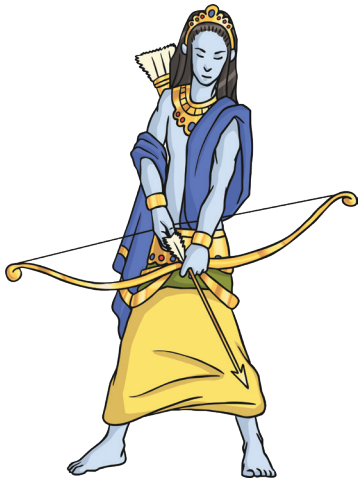
7. Write two adjectives to describe Hanuman, giving reasons for your choices.

Own answers.

The Story of Rama and Sita

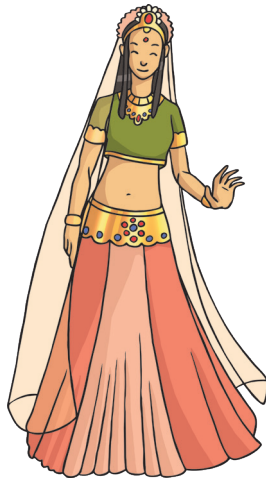
Play Script

Cast:



Rama

The King's Son
and rightful heir
to the throne



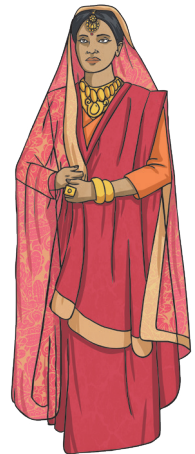
Sita

Rama's Wife



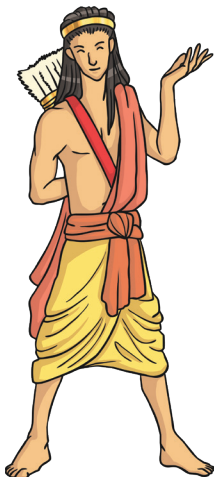
King

An old,
tired man



Rama's stepmother

The king's wife who
wants her own son
to be the next king



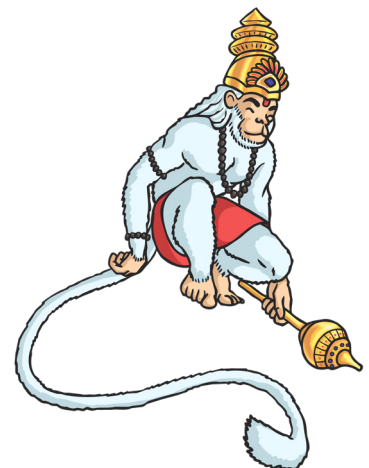
Lakshmana

Rama's brother



Ravana

The demon-king
with ten heads



Hanuman

The monkey king

Cast continued:

Fawn	<u>Monkey Army</u>
Narrator 1	Monkey 1
Narrator 2	Monkey 2
Narrator 3	Monkey 3
Narrator 4	Monkey 4
	Monkey 5



Prop Ideas:

Character Masks

Throne

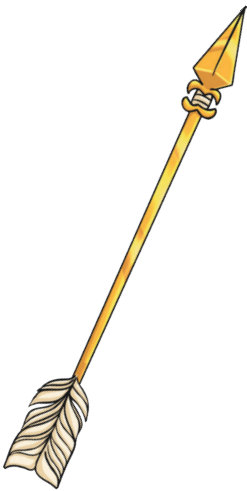
Cloak

Gold Bracelets

Walking Stick

Bow and Arrow

Diva Lamps (Health and Safety
Note-candles should not be used)



Audio Ideas:

Bird Song

Forest Animal Noises

Scene 1

Lights up. The palace gardens. Rama and Sita enter the stage. They walk around, talking and laughing as the narrator speaks. Birds can be heard in the background.

Narrator 1: | Once upon a time, there was a great warrior, Prince Rama, who had a beautiful wife named Sita.

Rama and Sita stop walking and stand in the middle of the stage.

Sita: | **(looking up to the sky)** What a beautiful day.

Rama: | **(looking at Sita)** Nothing compares to your beauty.

Sita: | **(smiling)** Come, let's continue.

Rama and Sita continue to walk around the stage, talking and laughing as the narrator continues.

Narrator 1: | Rama was the eldest son of the king. He was a good man and popular with the people of the land. He would become king one day, however his stepmother wanted her son to inherit the throne instead.

Rama's stepmother enters the stage.

Rama's stepmother: | **(grumpy)** What are you both so happy about?

Rama: | We are enjoying this beautiful morning. Stepmother, how are you today?

Rama's stepmother: | Why do you care Rama?
(Under her breath as she leaves the stage) I won't be happy until that boy is gone.

Rama: | I hope I didn't upset her?

Sita: | You are a kind man and would never upset anyone on purpose.

Rama and Sita leave the stage and lights down.

Scene 2

Lights Up. Inside the palace. The king is sitting on his throne with his wife standing beside him.

Rama's stepmother: | My dear, I've just come from the gardens.

King: | Did you enjoy your walk?

Rama's stepmother: | Unfortunately not as your son was very rude to me ...again. He gloated about how he will become king one day and threatened to have me banished to the forest.

King: | Rama said that? No, he couldn't have done.

Rama's stepmother: | Are you saying that you don't believe your beloved wife?

King: | I'm sorry my dear, I'm getting too old and tired for this. What has got into that boy? For weeks, you have told me about how boastful and mean he has become. Perhaps he won't make a good king after all?

Rama's stepmother: | I fear the same.

Rama and Sita enter.

Rama: | **(cheerful and bowing)** Good morning father!

Sita: | **(curtseying)** Good morning your majesty.

King: | Rama, I must ask why you have become so boastful lately? You gloat about how you will become king one day. This is not how a future king should behave!

Rama: | What? I don't understand.

King: | I thought you would make a kind, understanding king but I fear you will not. I think there is somebody better to continue this important role.

Rama: | But...

Rama's stepmother: | **(interrupting Rama)** Not everyone is cut out to be king, Rama.

Rama: | It's you! You have been putting ideas into my father's head. You horrible woman!

King:

(angrily)) ENOUGH! I've heard enough. Rama, that is no way to speak to my wife. I banish you to the forest for 14 years. By then, I will be gone and a new king will rule. Leave immediately! **(storms off the stage)**

Rama falls down to his knees with his head in his hands. Sita tries to comfort him. Having seen this, Rama's stepmother laughs and leaves the stage.

Lights down

Scene 3

Lights up. Rama and Sita are walking cautiously through the forest, looking around as they go. Rama's brother, Lakshmana, is leading the way. Forest noises can be heard in the background.

Rama:

Brother, it is kind of you to travel with us.

Lakshmana:

Father has made a terrible mistake. His thoughts have been poisoned by that woman. I know this forest well and I can help you build a home.

Sita:

(putting her hand on his shoulder) We are forever grateful for your kindness, Lakshmana.

Lakshmana:

The forest is a wild and dangerous place, watch your step.

Rama, Sita and Lakshmana exit the stage and lights down.

Scene 4

Lights up. Ravana's palace on the island of Lanka. Ravana is sitting on his throne.

Narrator 2:

On the island of Lanka, there was a grand palace. In the palace lived a ten-headed demon-king called Ravana. Ravana was feared throughout the land.

Ravana:

(standing up from his throne) I must find Sita and see her beauty for myself. She should be my wife as I am most powerful. As people fear me so much, and rightfully so, I can't appear to her as my true self. I need a cunning plan.

Narrator 2:

Ravana thought some more.

Ravana:

(rubbing his hands together/cunning voice) Yes, that's it! I'll disguise myself and capture her. She'll be mine forever!

Ravana exits the stage and lights down.

Scene 5

Lights up. Sita and Rama are walking in the forest. A golden fawn appears in their path.

Sita: **(whispering and pointing)** Rama, look there's a fawn over there, let's not scare it.

Rama: **(whispering)** What a beautiful creature. This forest is filled with so much life.

The fawn runs away, exiting the stage.

Sita: Rama, please bring it back to me. I must take another look at its beauty.

Rama: Anything for my wife.

Rama exits the stage and Sita happily walks around the forest clearing, taking in her surroundings. Ravana enters the stage, limping and dressed in disguise as an old man.

Ravana: Excuse me my dear, I'm a tired, old man who has lost his way. Can you help me?

Sita: Yes, of course I will help you.

Ravana: I don't think I can walk much further.

Sita: Come and rest with me a while, and then I'll help you find your way. Don't worry.

Sita walks towards him, Ravana removes his cloak, using it to capture Sita. She screams and struggles as Ravana takes her away. She throws down one of her bracelets. Both exit the stage.

Rama runs onto the stage, huffing and puffing.

Rama: Sita, where are you? Sita? The fawn disappeared into the trees. **(Rama looks down and notices her bracelet)** There was a struggle here. **(Rama looks at the ground in desperation)** Sita, where are you? Wait, what's that I see sparkling in the distance?

Rama exits the stage and lights down.

Scene 6

Lights up. Rama and Lakshmana are in the forest, following a trail of Sita's jewellery.

Rama: Thank you for helping me with my search brother.

Lakshmana: Here's another piece Rama. She must have left a trail.

Rama: Yes, that's definitely Sita's bracelet. Keep looking.

Hanuman enters.

Hanuman: Rama, are you alright? You look very worried.

Rama: Hanuman, I am. Something is wrong. Sita has been taken from me.

Hanuman: Oh no! Do not worry, I will help you. You're not on your own Rama.

Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman exit the stage.

Narrator 3: Hanuman flew off in search of Sita. He saw her trail of jewellery and followed it, hoping it would lead to the princess. The trail led him to Ravana's palace on the island of Lanka, across the stormy sea. Hanuman found Sita and reassured her that she would be saved.

Rama and Lakshmana back on stage, searching for Sita.

Rama/
Lakshmana: Sita! Sita! Where are you? Sita! Sita! **(in desperation)**

Hanuman enters

Rama: Hanuman, do you have news?

Hanuman: Yes, Sita has been captured by Ravana and is being held at his palace on the island of Lanka, across the wild sea.

Rama: Ravana, the demon-king? Oh no, is she alright? Please tell me no harm has come to her.

Hanuman: She is well, but we must hurry. I reassured her that we would return. Quickly, follow me.

Rama, Hanuman and Lakshmana exit the stage and lights down.

Scene 7

Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman are standing at the water's edge. Ravana's palace is at the other side.

Rama: **(frustrated)** I can't make it across there. It's too far. What are we going to do?

Lakshmana: I would go ahead, but the water is too deep and the tide is too strong. I would drown brother.

Hanuman: **(whistles)**

Monkeys arrive, creating a bridge over the water for Rama and Lakshmana.

Hanuman: Now you can cross safely. Go, there isn't a second to lose. We are all with you.

Lakshmana: Rama, we must hurry.

Rama: Thank you Hanuman, how will I ever repay you?

Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman start to make their way over the bridge. They exit the stage once they reach the other side.

Narrator 3: Ravana heard the intruders and a fierce battle began. Rama and his army fought against the demon for days until Rama fired an arrow which killed Ravana. At last, Rama and Sita were reunited. Good had overcome evil.

Lights down

Scene 8

Lights up. Rama and Sita enter the stage. They are standing at the edge of the forest and can see their home land in the distance. The path has been lit.

Sita: 14 years have passed, now let us return to our rightful home.

Rama: Which way do we go?

Sita: We must follow the lights. The light will show us the way.

Rama: There are more lights along this path than there are in the sky.

Rama and Sita walk along the path then exit the stage.

Narrator 4: The people of their homeland had also realised that the 14 years had passed. It was a dark night, so they lit diva lamps to show Rama and Sita the way back home. On their return, there were huge celebrations and Rama and Sita were crowned the rightful king and queen. Hindus celebrate Diwali every year, remembering this story of love and how good triumphed over evil.

The End

Questions

Answer in full sentences

1. What does Lakshmana mean when he says, 'His thoughts have been poisoned by that woman'?

2. What could have changed the behaviour and attitude of Rama's stepmother?

3. How would you describe the relationship between Rama and his brother? Give reasons for your answer.

4. Where does Ravana live?

5. Why did Ravana disguise himself when going to find Sita?

6. What might have happened if Sita hadn't left the trail of jewellery?

7. Which do you think is the best scene? Why?

Questions

8. List six features of a play script.

9. Write three adjectives to describe Hanuman, giving reasons for your choices.

Answers

1. What does Lakshmana mean when he says, 'His thoughts have been poisoned by that woman'?

Lakshmana is expressing how the king has changed his opinion of Rama, having believed the lies told by his wife. Accept similar answers.

2. What could have changed the behaviour and attitude of Rama's stepmother?

Own answers.

3. How would you describe the relationship between Rama and his brother? Give reasons for your answer.

The brothers have a good relationship. E.g. Lakshmana helps Rama and Sita build a new home in the forest, and he helps to find Sita when she is captured by Ravana. Accept similar answers where reasoning is given.

4. Where does Ravana live?

Ravana lives in a palace on the island of Lanka.

5. Why did Ravana disguise himself when going to find Sita?

Ravana wore a disguise to hide his true identity, enabling him to trick and capture her.

6. What might have happened if Sita hadn't left the trail of jewellery?

Own answers.

7. Which do you think is the best scene? Why?

Own answers.

8. List six features of a play script.

Any six of the following: cast list, costume ideas, scenes, scene setting, stage directions, no speech marks, character name with a colon on the left, narrator.

9. Write three adjectives to describe Hanuman, giving reasons for your choices.

Own answers.