

10th Standard - English

Ozymandias Summary

The narrator relates what the traveller tells him

The narrator says that he met a traveller from a very old land. He told him what he saw there in a desert.

Describing what the traveller saw

The traveller told the narrator that he saw a broken statue of a man in the desert. There remained now two huge legs of stone of the man. These stood in the desert and had no trunk on them. Near the sand there lay a broken human face. The face (of Ozymandias) had an expression of a frown and scorn of brutal command. These emotions were so exact that they told of the intelligence of the sculptor. He had studied them very intelligently and carved them on the stone. Other features of the face

The traveller told the narrator that these expressions on the human face survived there in the desert. On those lifeless legs, one could see two things. One, the hand of the sculptor which mocked at those expressions. Second, the heart of the person (king Ozymandias) who had been carved in the stone.

Writing on the pedestal

On the pedestal there were written these words : 'My name is Ozymandias, king of kings. Oh, you powerful! Look upon my deeds and be sad.'

What else remains

The traveller told the narrator that beside these legs and the human face there remained nothing. All around that huge broken statue there spread limitless, lone and level sands. These indicated the power of the time and the fate of the king who once had been mighty and mighty.