

## **Beowulf Research Topic Assignments**

**Block: A2**

<b>A. Celtic Heroes and Heroines</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Who were the Celts?</li><li>2. What role did mythology and religion play in their culture?</li><li>3. What defines and “Celtic legend”? What Celtic legends have survived?</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Gabby L-C</li><li>● Olivia Butler</li></ul>
<b>B. The Roman influence on Celtic Culture</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What changes did the Romans bring to Celtic culture, both positive and negative?</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Joe Santoro</li><li>● Matthew Risley</li></ul>
<b>C. The Origin of Anglo-Saxons Culture</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How did the term “Anglo-Saxon” come about?</li><li>2. What were the key features of this age of warriors?</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Lexus McAlister</li><li>● Morgan Spicer</li></ul>
<b>D. Women in Anglo-Saxon Culture</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What place did women have in Anglo-Saxon culture?</li><li>2. What roles did women assume?</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Mike M.</li><li>● Ashley VonHorn</li></ul>
<b>E. Anglo-Saxon Daily Life</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Describe a day-in-the-life for a typical Anglo-Saxon citizen.</li><li>2. What activities occupied their time?</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Mike Reininger</li><li>● Sean Donovan</li></ul>
<b>F. Anglo-Saxon Religion</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Who were the Anglo-Saxon deities?</li><li>2. What role did they play in Anglo-Saxon religion?</li><li>3. Have any legends survived that talk about these Anglo-Saxon gods?</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Jason</li><li>● Brian Weakliem</li></ul>
<b>G. Anglo-Saxon Literary Techniques and Traditions</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What is a kenning and how were kennings used in Anglo-Saxon literature?</li><li>2. What is the importance of alliteration in Anglo-Saxon literature?</li><li>3. What position did scopas hold in Anglo-Saxon culture?</li><li>4. How was the caesura used in Anglo-Saxon literature?</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● n/a</li></ul>

<b>H. Anglo-Saxon Riddles</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was the purpose of riddles in Anglo-Saxon culture?</li> <li>2. What is the Exeter book?</li> <li>3. Have any examples survived?</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Justin</li> <li>● Robbie Sipos</li> </ul>
<b>I. The Bards: Singing of Gods and Heroes</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is a bard?</li> <li>2. What influence did bards have on the evolution of literature?</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jenna Bendinelli</li> <li>● Emily McPartlin</li> </ul>
<b>J. Christian Influence on Anglo-Saxon Literary History</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How did the introduction of Christianity influence Anglo-Saxon recorded history?</li> <li>2. Can this influence be seen in surviving literary works today? How?</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● n/a</li> </ul>
<b>K. Vikings</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Who were the Vikings?</li> <li>2. What did it mean to be a Viking?</li> <li>3. Why are they known as some of the first explorers?</li> <li>4. What made Viking ships unique?</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kyle Macklin</li> <li>● Ali Geary</li> </ul>
<b>L. Beowulf—An Introduction</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is known about the original story of Beowulf?</li> <li>2. How does this story in particular represent the Anglo-Saxon heroic ideal?</li> <li>3. What qualities did the Anglo-Saxons value in their heroes? How are these qualities seen in the story of Beowulf?</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Brianna McKenna</li> <li>● Matt Herman</li> </ul>
<b>M. The Epic Hero</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is an epic?</li> <li>2. What makes a hero epic?</li> <li>3. What are some literary examples depicting epic heroes?</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Allen Cheng</li> <li>● John Chen</li> </ul>
<b>N. Dragon Symbolism</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why are dragons so prevalent in literature, especially epic tales such as Beowulf?</li> <li>2. What countries/regions in the world have dragons in their mythology/literature and culture?</li> <li>3. What are some literary examples featuring dragons?</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Melissa Lane</li> <li>● Brian Flood</li> </ul>