

Beowulf
Final assessment options
100 points

DUE DATE: Friday, September 17

Below you will find several options for your final assessment of *Beowulf*. They range from group presentations to individual writing tasks. Anything that you turn in to me must be typed (MLA format) with the exception of the graphic novel choice. Choose one and have fun! Based on your goals for this class, what project will help you accomplish your goals?

- A)** Write and perform a sequel or prequel to *Beowulf* in the form of an epic. You must stick to a believable story line—do not introduce some unrelated element like aliens or cell phones. (This can be prose, poem, skit, etc., but it needs to have the elements of an epic: heroes or people of high rank who encounter adventures or struggles on a grand scale, strong plot, conflict, excitement, adventure, detailed descriptions, and compelling imagery.)
- One to three people can do this.
 - This should be 5-10 minutes long (for two people, a minimum of 7 minutes; for three people, a minimum of 9 minutes).
 - You will turn in a copy of your epic with each group member's name at least one day before you perform it. You will receive the same grade unless I see that each member has not made equal effort.
- B)** Write and perform a monologue from Beowulf's (or Grendel's) perspective describing his life from the beginning until his death.
- One person.
 - This should be 4-10 minutes long, no more, no less. You will turn in a copy of your monologue to me at least one day before you perform it.
- C)** Choose a section of *Beowulf* (Beowulf's encounter with Grendel's mother, for example) to rewrite and illustrate as a graphic novel. This should be very detailed and in color. You need a minimum of 20 illustrations (drawn/painted by you) minimum 5x5 inches with narrative text included (written by you). See me for an example of this! (You could do this electronically—digital story or PowerPoint.) One person.
- D)** Create a movie trailer as if the excerpt poem we read in class was made into a film. Use real movie trailers as a model for this. Include actual quotes, music, release date, actors, etc. You may not use any images or video clips from films based on the poem.
- One or two people can do this.
 - Your movie trailer should be 5-10 minutes long (minimum of 7 minutes for two people).

- I need to preview this before we show it in class. I will keep the copy, so make extras if you want copies. If you work with a partner, you will receive the same grade unless I see that both members have not made equal effort.

E) Write an essay on one of the following topics. One person. This essay should be 4 ½-8 pages long, following MLA format—typed, double spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins). You will probably have to do some research outside of the topic itself. Include a works cited page. Be prepared to share a condensed version (sort of a summary) during class.

1. Watch a film version of *Beowulf* and write a comparison/contrast. Include your reaction to any differences you find between the two.
2. The role of women in *Beowulf*. Examine the female characters in *Beowulf*. You may want to read an extended translation of the poem for this assignment (see me for this). Do women play an important role in the poem? Is this consistent with their roles in Anglo-Saxon society?
3. Monsters of *Beowulf*. Consider the qualities of the three monsters. Why does the poet give Grendel and his mother human qualities? What does the home of each monster represent about him/her as Beowulf's foe?
4. Battles with monsters. In Beowulf's three fights with three monsters he uses different methods, techniques, and weapons, and he wins different "trophies" each time. Analyze these differences and explain what this says about his development as a hero.
5. Modern themes. Look for themes in Beowulf that have connection to our society and to modern humanity. Can we learn from any themes found in this ancient poem? (For example, compare Grendel to a modern villain: Hitler, Saddam Hussein. **OR** Can Grendel be seen as a victim? Perhaps the Danes moved in and polluted his home just as humans are cutting down rainforests or hunting endangered animals.)

Objectives	Low Performance	At or Below Average	At or Above Average	Exemplary Performance	Earned Points
General requirements--MLA format, you follow requirements for your chosen option (including turning in a copy one day before your performance for A & B & D and meeting time/page constraints)	1 point None of these requirements were met	3 points 1 or 2 of these requirements were met	7 points Most of these requirements were met	10 points ALL of the requirements were met	
Content--you answered all of the questions/requirements for the option you chose	0 points You wrote about/presented something else entirely	15 points You only answered 1 or 2 of the questions/requirements	35 points You answered most of the questions/requirements	55 points You did a great job answering all questions/requirements for your option!	
Grammar/mechanics/other errors--you use complete sentences, proper spelling, punctuation, etc.	1 point You need to proofread!	5 points Several errors.	10 points Only 1 or 2 errors.	15 points Great job!	
Presentation--Your performance, graphic novel, or essay is well-rehearsed and polished.	1 point You weren't very prepared!	10 points Needs more work.	15 points Needs a little bit of work.	20 points Great job!	
				Score: /	100