

### **Boasting Like Beowulf Assignment**

We have read of the many exploits of Beowulf and the many brave thanes among the Danes and the Geats. We know, too, that the Anglo-Saxons saw nothing wrong with letting the world know who they were, who their noble parents were, what great feats they had accomplished and what they planned to do. This boasting was perfectly polite, even expected. You can opt for the more formal and polite boast, see lines 399-455, 632-638, 677-687 for examples of the formal Anglo-Saxon boast. Or you can opt for the defensive boast that Beowulf makes in response to Unferth's accusations, see lines 530-606.

**Your assignment is to write either type of boast about yourself and perform it for the class.** Tell us your deeds, who your family is, what you plan to do, and how you're not gonna take nothing from nobody! Your accomplishments may be academic, athletic, musical, social, artistic, etc. Lay aside your humility! There are plenty occasions in life for a little boasting: job applications, college essays, scholarships, etc.

#### **Guidelines:**

- **Begin with a statement of who you are and who you are related to.**
- **Explain your previous accomplishments.**
- **Explain what you intend to do and why you are qualified.**
- **Explain how you intend to accomplish your deed.**
- **Include two original kennings of at least 2 words each. (A kenning is a compound of 2 or more words. Ex: ring-giver, spear-gored, whale-beast, sea-braving, etc)**
- **Use alliteration in every line.**
- **Must be at least 30 lines with about 9-10 syllables in each line.**
- **This is a creative writing piece and should use imagery and poetic language**
- **Boasts may be serious, ironic, sarcastic, and/or humorous. You may use "artistic license" to add interest.**

**Presentation:** Part of the grade is to present this to the class. Your presentation will be scored based on your ability to perform this boast well. Don't be shy! Impress us with all your accomplishments!

**Due Date: 1<sup>st</sup> block after Thanksgiving Break. Periods 1 and 2 will perform Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, and Period 3 will perform Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. You will turn in a typed copy of your boast and perform it for the class. It does not need to be memorized; however, you should practice reading it out loud before presenting to the class.**

