

1. Who was King Scyld?

- a. King of the Danes
- b. King of the Geats
- c. King of the Britons
- d. King of the Scots

2. Beowulf (the written story) was composed by an author from

- a. Denmark
- b. Sweden
- c. Finland
- d. England
- e. Norway

3. How do the mourners dispose of King Scyld's body?

- a. Burn it
- b. Put it on a ship to sail across the sea
- c. Bury it in a burial mound
- d. Leave it

4. What project does Hrothgar undertake to ensure his fame? What is the name of that construction project?

- a. He builds a great mead hall
- b. He builds a great burial mound
- c. He digs a hole to the dragon's lair
- d. He builds a great tower

5. What does Heorot mean?

- a. Home of the Rabbit
- b. Home of the dragon
- c. Tower of the bear
- d. Den of the dragon
- e. Hall of the stag

6. What angers Grendel about the activities of Heorot?

- a. The hurt his mother
- b. They killed his mother
- c. They killed his sister
- d. He hates joy
- e. He hates Englishmen

7. According to the story, from what famous person does Grendel trace his monstrous lineage?

- a. The devil
- b. Cain
- c. Pontius Pilate
- d. Ishmael
- e. The fires of Gorgon

8. How long does Grendel haunt Heorot until Beowulf comes to help the Danes?

- a. One year
- b. Two years
- c. Five years
- d. Ten years
- e. Twelve years

9. Who is the descendent of Scyld Sheving?

- (A) Beowulf
- (B) Hrothgar
- (C) Grendel
- (D) Wulfgar
- (E) Ashere

10. What tribe (or nation or race or language) does Beowulf belong to?

- a. Danes
- b. Old English
- c. Celts
- d. Geats
- e. Frisians

11. How does Hrothgar know of Beowulf?

- (A) Beowulf once proposed to his daughter.
- (B) Hrothgar was friends with Beowulf's mother.
- (C) Beowulf had gained a widespread reputation after slaying a dragon.
- (D) He read about him on the Internet.
- (E) The story tellers have told countless tales of Beowulf's courage and power

12. What king does Beowulf serve when in his homeland?

- a. Edgetheow
- b. Hygelac
- c. Wiglaf
- d. Geat
- e. Cassius

13. What king does Beowulf serve when in Denmark?

- a. Edgetheow
- b. Hygelac
- c. Wiglaf
- d. Geat
- e. Hrothgar

14. Speculate: Why do Beowulf and his men set aside their spears before seeking an audience with the king? What does this action suggest about either Anglo-Saxon culture generally or Hrothgar's court more specifically?

- a. It proves that the weapons are strong – and that the Geats can win the fight with Grendel.
- b. They scare the Danes with great weapons – and wish to relax the peaceful men of Hrothgar's court.
- c. They put the weapons away to put the minds of the Danes at rest
- d. They allow the weapons to be cared for by servants of Hrothgar
- e. Anglo Saxon culture is violent. They must prove that they will not suddenly do violence – as these men are obviously fighters

15. When Wulfgar tells Hrothgar about Beowulf's arrival, what does Hrothgar reveal about his relationship to Beowulf?

- a. I knew his mother
- b. I knew his grand uncle
- c. I knew his father
- d. I knew his enemy
- e. I knew his identity from his language.

16. Who is Beowulf's father?

- (A) Edgetheow
- (B) Hrothgar
- (C) Wulfgar
- (D) Wealhtheow

17. What is the name of Hrothgar's wife?

- (A) Wealhtheow
- (B) Hygd
- (C) Modthryth
- (D) Grendel
- (E) Ashere

18. Who criticizes Beowulf in Heorot?

- (A) Unferth
- (B) Hrothgar
- (C) Wiglaf
- (D) Wealhtheow

19. Whom does Grendel's mother abduct and decapitate?

- (A) Ashere
- (B) Wulfgar
- (C) Hrothgar
- (D) Beowulf
- (E) Wealhtheow

20. How long does Beowulf reign as king of the Geats?

- (A) 30 years
- (B) 40 years
- (C) 50 years
- (D) 60 years

21. What, according to Beowulf, is better than mourning a death?

- (A) Celebrating a birth
- (B) Avenging a death
- (C) Drinking one's sorrows away
- (D) Making peace with one's enemies

22. Where do Grendel and his mother live?

- (A) In a palace
- (B) In a mead-hall
- (C) In a barrow or cavern
- (D) In a Mere or Fen Lair

23. What is a scop?

- (A) A mead-hall
- (B) A poet storyteller
- (C) A god who controls humans
- (D) A ship that sails with sails and oars

24. Who guides Beowulf to the dragon's barrow?

- (A) Wulfgar
- (B) The thief
- (C) The slave-girl
- (D) Hygdolanus

25. Who helps Beowulf against the dragon?

- (A) Wulfgar
- (B) Unferth
- (C) Hrothgar
- (D) Wiglaf

26. How many Geats does Grendel kill?

- (A) Eleven
- (B) Eight
- (C) One
- (D) Four

27. What is Hrunting?

- (A) A mead-hall
- (B) A sword
- (C) A lake
- (D) A helmet
- (E) A northern swamp

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28. Where do the Geats put Beowulf's burial place?

- (A) In Grendel's swamp
- (B) In the dragon's lair
- (C) In the palace temple
- (D) On a cliff overlooking the sea
- (E) On the highest mountain in Geatland

29. How did the dragon's treasure get in the barrow?

- (A) The dragon hauled it there with his teeth.
- (B) Hygelac had it buried there after he died.
- (C) The boat containing the body of Shield Sheafson landed there.
- (D) It was buried there by the last survivor of a forgotten race.

30. From about when does the existing Beowulf manuscript date?

- (A) 700 A.D.
- (B) 1000 A.D.
- (C) 700 B.C.
- (D) 50 A.D.

31. Define *Mere*

- a. sword
- b. power
- c. lake
- d. volcano
- e. fire

32. Define *atheling*

- a. sword
- b. orphan
- c. dragon
- d. nobleman
- e. swift runner

33. define *thane*

- a. sword
- b. wife
- c. husband
- d. nobleman
- e. dragon

34. define *barrow*

- a. sword or knife
- b. mountain or burial mound
- c. guard or sentry or watchman
- d. deep body of water or ocean
- e. woman or noble wife

35. Define *pyre*

- a. Fire for a funeral
- b. A sword for a king
- c. A shield
- d. A dragon
- e. A cave

36. At the first banquet, who taunts Beowulf about a swimming match with Breca?

- a. Heardred
- b. Hygelac
- c. Unferth
- d. Wiglaf

37. Beowulf defeats Grendel's mother by using a

- a. dagger
- b. sword
- c. curse
- d. magic potion
- e. magical saying or oath

38. Beowulf defeats Grendel by ripping off its

- a. Arm-claw
- b. Head-throat
- c. Tongue-teeth
- d. pituitary gland

39. The fiery dragon is angry because a fugitive slave stole what from him?

- a. cup
- b. Ring
- c. Shield
- d. Sword

40. What is a *scop*?

- a. A story teller
- b. A Danish king
- c. A lake
- d. A warrior

41. What is the name of Hrothgar's great mead-hall?

- a. Heorot
- b. Hrunting
- c. Naeglings Home
- d. Middle Hall
- e. Morder

42. Who comes to Beowulf's aid in the dragon fight and then becomes the future Geat king?

- a. Aschere
- b. Heardred
- c. Hygelac
- d. Wiglaf
- e. Aaragon

43. In Beowulf, why does Beowulf sail with his chosen companions to Hrothgar's kingdom?

- a. to bring home treasures from that rich kingdom
- b. To see his grandfather.
- c. to win glory by slaying a fire-breathing dragon
- d. to take over Hygelac's throne

44. From which fact can the reader infer that the character Beowulf is honorable?

- a. Beowulf refuses to use weapons because Grendel uses none.
- b. Higlac is Beowulf's cousin – and stands by family.
- c. Beowulf is the strongest of the Geats – and proves his virility.
- d. Beowulf vows to ambush Grendel and destroy the monster to save his reputation.

45. What does this line from Beowulf mean?

“The monster's thoughts were as quick as his greed or his claws”

- a. He is hungry.
- b. He has sharp claws.
- c. He has intelligence.
- d. He is not trustworthy.

46. In Beowulf, Wiglaf thinks he and his comrades should help Beowulf fight the dragon because

- a. Beowulf is too old and sick to fight.
- b. it will increase Beowulf's chance of victory.
- c. then Beowulf's comrades can claim the monster's treasure.
- d. in the past they had promised to repay Beowulf's kindness with their lives.

47. In Beowulf when the dying Beowulf gives Wiglaf his gold necklace, the gesture means that

- a. Beowulf has captured the monster's treasure.
- b. Beowulf wants Wiglaf to kill his comrades.
- c. Beowulf recognizes Wiglaf's superior strength in battle.
- d. Beowulf is passing on the rulership of Geatland to Wiglaf.

48. Beowulf says he won't use weapons against Grendel because

- a. They won't work against him
- b. He left them behind in Geatland
- c. It wouldn't be a fair fight
- d. Hyglac might think less of him

49. Grendel's mother kills Hrothgar's best friend and

- a. Carries off Grendel's arm
- b. Favorite dog
- c. Steals his treasure
- d. son

50. The dragon's treasure was

- a. never found
- b. thrown in the sea
- c. buried with Beowulf
- d. given to Hygelac

51. In what language was Beowulf originally written?

- a) Old English
- b) Middle English
- c) Victorian English
- d) Nonstandard English
- e. Old Danish

52. What is the name of the hall built by King Hrothgar?

- a) Heorot
- b) Hrunting
- c) Higlac
- d) Scylding

53. Why does Unferth bring up Beowulf's swimming match with Brecca?

- a) He is trying to convince Hrothgar of Beowulf's skills.
- b) He is jealous of Beowulf and trying to make him look bad.
- c) He was present at the race and thought Beowulf cheated.
- d) He knows the fight against Grendel's mother will be underwater.

54. A character like Unferth is called a/an _____?

- a) Protagonist
- b) Sidekick
- c) personifist
- d) Stock character.
- e. antagonist

55. Why does Hrothgar ask Beowulf to battle Grendel's mother?

- a) All his soldiers were just killed during her attack.
- b) He is embarrassed that he allowed the men to return to the hall to sleep.
- c) He has never expected his own men to be able to kill a monster.
- d) She murdered someone Hrothgar cared about and carried off Grendel's clawed arm, so he wants to be sure she is destroyed.

56. What is so fantastical about Beowulf's journey to Gendel's mother's lair?

- a) Beowulf is able to stay alive under water for hours.
- b) Other sea monsters join them, biting on Beowulf.
- c) Beowulf is able to find and use a giant's sword against the monster.
- d) Both A and B, but not C
- e) All of the above.

57. How does Grendel's mother die?

- a) Beowulf kills her with a giant's sword he found in the lair.
- b) Wiglaf helps defeat the monster with his bare hands.
- c) King Hrothgar shoots an arrow.
- d) Grendel's mother dies of a broken heart.
- e. Grendel's mother does not die – she slinks away and hides, wounded but alive

58. How did Hrothgar reward Beowulf?

- a) He passed his crown over to him.
- b) He sang a song in his honor.
- c) He gave him treasures and gold.
- d) He offered his daughter's hand in marriage.

59. With regard to the dragon fight, why does Wiglaf criticize the other warriors, saying they are "branded with disgrace"?

- a) They were trying to strike at the Dragon when Beowulf said not to.
- b) He was proud of their actions and how they waited in the woods as told.
- c) He was disgusted that they did not come to the aid of their king when he was suffering.
- d) He will most likely be their king so he needed to begin to lecture them

60. Which of the following is NOT one of the essential traits of an epic hero?

- a) They must come ordinary birth and lowly parents.
- b) They exhibit traits or qualities that the society looks up to.
- c) They perform courageous, fantastic feats that reflect values of their society.
- d) Their actions affect large groups of people.

61. Which of following is the best theme of this story?

- a) Great strength makes things right. Might makes right
- b) Intelligence is greater than strength.
- c) Loyalty and bravery will triumph over evil.
- d) A king must be wealthy and well connected to get help during emergencies.

62. From which fact can the reader infer that the character Beowulf is honorable?

- a. Beowulf refuses to use weapons because Grendel uses none.
- b. Hygalac is Beowulf's cousin.
- c. Beowulf is the strongest of the Geats.
- d. Beowulf vows to ambush Grendel and destroy the monster – guaranteeing revenge.

63. Which of the following is an element of the epic style of literature (genres such as The Iliad, The Odyssey, Beowulf)?

- a. lighthearted tone
- b. episodes important to the children of society – and good values of family life.
- c. natural values of family and friends in a strong moral setting with religious overtones
- d. struggle of good versus evil in a setting of importance to a culture and a nation

64. Why does the dragon attack the Geats?

- a) He needs food and desires human blood, and the Geats can provide sacrifices.
- b) He is not being worshiped anymore, and he desires revenge.
- c) A thief had stolen a cup from out of his treasure, and he blames them.
- d) He is lonesome like Grendel, and he hates the joy of the Geats.

65. In what way does Beowulf's sword fail him during the fight?

- a) It has a spell on it so that it can't hurt the dragon.
- b) It breaks apart when striking the dragons scales and continues to break a bit more with each strike.
- c) The dragon is able to melt the sword with its fiery breath.
- d) Beowulf drops the sword and it stays out of his reach during the fight.

66. Why does Wiglaf fight the dragon along with Beowulf?

- a) He didn't want Beowulf to get all of the glory.
- b) He lost a bet with the other men.
- c) He respected Beowulf and knew his king needed help.
- d) He had a magical sword that could pierce dragon scales.

67. Which of the following is NOT an element of the epic style of literature (genres such as The Iliad, The Odyssey, Beowulf)?

- a. lighthearted tone
- b. episodes important to the nation's history
- c. national values
- d. struggle of good versus evil

68. Which voice remembers Scyld Sheving?

- (A) Beowulf's
- (B) Wiglaf's
- (C) the narrator's
- (D) Hrothgar's

69. Who is the grandson of Scyld Sheving?

- (A) Beowulf
- (B) Hrothgar
- (C) Grendel
- (D) Healfdene.

70. In his life of action and struggle, Beowulf experiences

- a. One great trial of courage and strength
- b. Two great trials of courage and strength
- c. Three great trials of courage and strength
- d. Four great trials of courage and strength
- e. Five great trials of courage and strength

71. Find the **HYPERBOLE** in the following choices.

- a. Beowulf was good to those who served him well.
- b. Beowulf fought like the devil.
- c. Beowulf had the strength of thirty men
- d. Beowulf hated violence, but followed his duty.
- e. Beowulf was like a god of war

72. Find the **SIMILE** in the following:

- a. Beowulf was good to those who served him well.
- b. Beowulf fought like a god of war
- c. Beowulf had the strength of thirty men
- d. Beowulf hated violence, but followed his duty.
- e. Beowulf was a god of war

Find the bolded part of speech

73. Grendel **violently** attacked the sleepy warriors in Hrothgar's mead hall.

- a. Noun
- b. Verb
- c. Adjective
- d. Adverb
- e. Preposition

74. Grendel violently **attacked** the sleepy warriors in Hrothgar's mead hall.

- a. Noun
- b. Verb
- c. Adjective
- d. Adverb
- e. Preposition

75. Grendel violently attacked the **sleepy** warriors in Hrothgar's mead hall.

- a. Noun
- b. Verb
- c. Adjective
- d. Adverb
- e. Preposition

76. Grendel violently attacked the sleepy warriors **in** Hrothgar's mead hall.

- a. Noun
- b. Verb
- c. Adjective
- d. Adverb
- e. Preposition

Find the tense of each bolded clause or sentence

77. **Hrothgar has failed to defeat Grendel.**

- a. Present tense
- b. Past tense
- c. Present perfect tense
- d. Past perfect tense
- e. Past progressive tense

78. Although Beowulf stood up to Unferf, he admitted that **he had lost the swimming contest to his opponent.**

- a. Present tense
- b. Past tense
- c. Present perfect tense
- d. Past perfect tense
- e. Past progressive tense

What kind of sentence is the following?

79. Beowulf dives unafraid into the mere, and the hero proceeds to swim down to the dark bottom of the lake.

- a. Simple sentence
- b. Compound sentence
- c. Complex sentence.

Which clause is the dependent clause?

80. *Beowulf would not be satisfied* until he had killed both Grendel and his mother.

- A. The italicized clause
- B. The underlined clause