

English 12 CP Summer Assignment

YOUR JOB:

** SIGN OUT YOUR COPIES OF Beowulf from ROOM 310 or the Main Office. IF you are unable to do so then rest assured you can find the text at any local library as well as online.

****Getting copies of this text whether in book form, pdf, or online IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.****

- Step 1- Read the Book. Beowulf edited by Seamus Heaney (any other edition is fine if you must get it from your local library or bookstore - it is also AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR FREE just Google "Beowulf text").**
- Step 2- Look over the discussion topics. PICK THREE TOPICS TO RESPOND TO.
- Step 3- Complete the TOPIC RESPONSES.
 - Type up your responses to the THREE TOPICS you have chosen from the list.
 - your name must be on each page.
 - Responses must be numbered.
 - Typed and double spaced.
 - Each response should be at least one FULL paragraph.
- YOU WILL ALSO BE QUIZZED ON THIS TEXT THE VERY FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL.

🔥 On the first day of class you will be notified of when to bring in your completed ESSAY & when the QUIZ will be given in class.

Enjoy the summer, the reading really isn't that bad (after all it IS about a guy who kills monsters by ripping their arms off---coooooL - - just don't pressure yourself, read at your own pace. Another great way to make this more understandable is to listen to the AUDIO BOOK. See if you can download it from Amazon (it might even be free!) or try Spotify.

- **Need Help?** If you need clarification of these requirements, the assignment or the scoring rubric please feel free to email me at the high school during the summer--prior to the due date. My email is: mreider@capemaytech.com I will check my email once a week during the summer break. If I get an email from you I WILL reply. If you don't hear back from me then I didn't get it. THIS BOOK IS AVAILABLE FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE, PUBLIC LIBRARIES, OR ONLINE.

□ **Beowulf TOPICS:** CHOOSE THREE and RESPOND COMPLETELY using textual references/evidence.

1. Why is the focus of the story on Beowulf as a hero rather than a king? What is the difference? Does Beowulf die a heroic death? Did he live a heroic life? Provide evidence and analysis to support your assertions.
2. Trace the history of the hall Heorot – why was it built, what happened within its walls, how and by whom was it destroyed? What is its impact on the tale of Beowulf? How does the structure of Heorot reflect the tale of Beowulf?
3. What do the poets within Beowulf sing about? To whom do they sing their songs? What is the purpose of their performances? What is the effect on the tale of Beowulf? Explain.
4. What is the status of gold and gift-giving in the poem? Who gives gifts, who receives them, and why? Are the modern concepts of wealth, payment, monetary worth and greed appropriate for the world of Beowulf? Explain.
5. Wealhtheow, Hygd, Hildeburh, Grendel's mother – what do the female characters in Beowulf do? How do they do it? Do they offer alternative perspectives on the heroic world (so seemingly centered around male action) of the poem? How? Why?
6. Why are there so many stories – within – the – story in the poem? What is the relationship between these so-called “digressions” and the main narrative in Beowulf? What is the effect? Explain.
7. Find two themes and two important symbols (in your opinion) in Beowulf. Using examples from the text, explain why these themes and symbols are important and why they are still relevant in today's society?

Summer Reading Responses	Superior Command 93-100	Strong Command 85-92	Adequate Command 76-84	Limited Command 67-75	Inadequate Command 0-67
Content	All requirements of the assignment were covered with excellent, concrete content/detail.	Most of the requirements were covered with adequate content/detail.	Some of the requirements were covered with minimal detail. There could have been more content/detail.	Few if any of the requirements were met within this assignment. There is a great lack of content/detail.	Did you read the requirements? I don't see any included in this assignment. The content/detail included in this assignment has no purpose.
Knowledge	It is extremely evident that you read the book in its entirety. You knew the book inside, outside, and upside down.	You knew the book, but you were missing a few ideas. There could have been more knowledge.	Some ideas are apparent, but you could have acquainted yourself with the book more in order to convey the ideas better.	Your knowledge of the book was weak. You did not take the time to find pertinent examples from each piece and convey the ideas into writing.	It seems as though you watched a movie version with your eyes closed and read the cover of the book. No knowledge is apparent in any way.
Writing Style And Originality	The author uses a writing style that shows a strong understanding of tone, intent, voice, etc. The work shows a strong sense of originality.	The author uses a writing style that shows an acceptable understanding of tone, intent, voice, etc. The work shows an acceptable sense of originality.	The author uses a writing style that shows a limited understanding of tone, intent, voice, etc. The work shows a limited sense of originality.	The author uses a writing style that shows an unacceptable understanding of tone, intent, voice, etc. The work shows an unacceptable sense of originality.	The author shows no sense of writing style or originality. The author used someone else's work.
Detail/ Examples	The author uses at least 10 superb examples within the assignment to convey superb understanding of the assignment.	The author uses 8-9 excellent examples within the assignment to convey excellent understanding of the assignment.	The author uses 5-7 examples within the assignment to convey understanding of the assignment.	The author uses 3-4 weak examples within the assignment to convey that they may have read the book.	The author uses 0-2 extremely weak examples within the assignment. It is clear that there is no knowledge/understanding of the assignment or book.
Mechanics and Grammar	The assignment is grammatically and mechanically sound. There are few minor errors and no major errors.	The assignment is mechanically and grammatically acceptable. There are a few minor/major errors.	The assignment contains major errors that make it difficult to discern the author's meaning.	The assignment contains many errors. These errors make the assignment difficult to follow.	The assignment contains numerous errors. Due to the number of errors, the flow of the assignment was extremely hard to follow.

