

BEOWULF THEMES

Timeline

Place the following events in order.

- Beowulf receives Hrunting.
- Grendel's mother attacks.
- Beowulf fights Grendel's mother.
- Beowulf and Grendel fight.
- Hrothgar builds Heorot.
- Beowulf sinks into the lake.
- Grendel attacks.
- Grendel attacks.
- Unferth challenges Beowulf.
- Beowulf arrives to aid Hrothgar.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

CONFLUENCE OF CHRISTIANITY AND PAGANISM

1. Read lines 99-125.
 - Describe the Biblical allusion in this passage.

- What effect does this allusion give? In other words, what qualities does it reveal about Grendel?

2. Read lines 1651-1670.

- How does Beowulf display Christian elements in this speech?

THE SANCTITY OF THE MEAD-HALL

3. Read lines 64-83.

- What is special about Heorot and Hrothgar's throne?

4. Read lines 164-169.

- In your opinion, why can't Grendel touch Hrothgar's throne?

ROLE OF WOMEN

Contrast the two main female characters in *Beowulf*. List characteristics, actions, and roles. Think beyond just the obvious differences.

WEALHTHEOW	GRENDEL'S MOTHER
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.

SWORDS AND WEAPONRY

WEAPONS	WHO USES IT/HOW IT IS USED	WHY THIS IS SIGNIFICANT
Beowulf's bare hands		
Hrunting		
Giant's sword		
Naegling		