Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

English 12 Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Grendel’s Mother”, “The Battle with Grendel’s Mother”, and “Beowulf’s Last Battle”

**1.1.12.D:** Demonstrate comprehension / understanding before reading, during reading, and after reading on a variety of grade level texts to support understanding of a variety of literary works from different cultures and literary movements.   
**1.2.12.A:** Evaluate and critique text organization and content to determine the author’s purpose and effectiveness according to the theses, accuracy, thoroughness, logic, and reasoning  
**1.3.12.C:** Analyze the effectiveness of literary elements used by authors in various genres.

“Grendel’s Mother” **Although one monster has died, another still lives. From her lair in a cold and murky lake, where she has been brooding over her loss, Grendel’s mother emerges, bent on revenge.**

1. Why do you think Grendel’s mother takes his claw?
2. What sort of place is the underwater lair of Grendel’s mother? How does the translator’s use of alliteration make this description more effective?
3. Make a prediction. What will Beowulf’s response be to Hrothgar’s challenge at the end of the passage? How do you know?

**Extension Activity:** What monsters do we have in today’s world? Do you believe Grendel was a real monster in the epic story of *Beowulf*? If not, why would the writer include a fictional monster in this story?

“The Battle with Grendel’s Mother”

1. What characteristic of an epic hero does Beowulf display in these lines?
2. How important is fame to Beowulf?
3. Why do you think the Geats want the Danes to see the monster’s skull?



**“Beowulf’s Last Battle”**

1. Why do you think Beowulf keeps fighting?
2. How is Wiglaf unlike Beowulf’s other subjects?
3. What does Wiglaf suggest is the reason Beowulf has failed to defeat the dragon?